

Rebels force Joseph's retreat on grants

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, last night signalled a government retreat on plans to cut student support by £39 million when he told a packed meeting of more than 250 Conservative backbenchers that he would be making a Commons statement on the issue today.

But he refused to elaborate and the one-hour meeting quickly turned into one of the angriest grilling sessions given to a minister in many years.

Out of 33 backbench speakers, only three could be considered to have given Sir Keith guarded support and at one point there was a thunderous roar of approval, with desks and doors being banged by the massed ranks of rebels, when Mr William Bynon, MP for Milton Keynes and a member of the backbench 1922 committee executive, said that they would be satisfied with nothing less than complete withdrawal of Sir Keith's proposals.

One MP later described the support for Mr Bynon's point as "riotous".

Conservative MPs coming out of the meeting agreed that they had rarely seen a minister given such "a rough ride". One former minister said: "I can still smell blood."

Another former minister said: "It is going very well; they are 99 per cent against him."

One MP said: "They're baying."

Another said the meeting reminded him of the French middle-class up in arms, and yet another said: "Keith is just sitting there silent and slightly agitated."

The meeting, which was described as "the biggest since the Falklands", was also attended by a significant number of MPs and Mr Michael Aislin, the Prime Minister's parliamentary private secretary, who would undoubtedly ensure that the Treasury was made aware of the threat to tomorrow's vote on the public expenditure package.

Sir Keith himself told the meeting that his budget was finite and, although he said he was personally in favour of loans to students they, too, would provoke protest.

One former minister was later reported to have won a cheer of support when he said that the whole strategy of cutting public expenditure to find room for cuts was mistaken and had to be reviewed. But there were others who favoured an adjustment of Sir Keith's proposals to soften the impact of the changes, while keeping some of the savings.

Certainly, Sir Keith himself told the Commons earlier, during education question time, that he was acutely conscious of the unexpected impact it would have on family finances. He told Mr Charles Morrison, another member of the 1922 committee executive: "One of the severest aspects of this whole policy is that it does defeat deeply entrenched expectations. I accept that."

When Mr Andrew Mackay, MP for East Dorset, spoke of real and sudden hardship, Sir Keith said in response to the loud, all-party cheers of support: "I hear what my friend says and the support that he gets."

The actual terms of today's statement were last night hammered out in negotiation between Sir Keith, and the Treasury ministers who will have to open and wind up tomorrow's debate on public spending, with guidance from the whips on the extent of potential revolt.

The Prime Minister, who returned to London from Dublin last night, would also be expected to "possibly" with a meeting of ministers to finalise the terms of retreat this morning.

Passenger train engulfed in flames



Firemen and rescue workers search for passengers in the wreckage of the crashed train.

Two die in tanker collision

By David Nicholson-Lord

Two people were killed and 77 injured, eight seriously, when a passenger train was engulfed in flames after plunging into a freight tanker train carrying petroleum in a built-up area of Salford, Greater Manchester, yesterday.

Some hundred people were evacuated from their homes as more than 250 firemen from four brigades fought the blaze. The engine and front two coaches of the express burnt out after the crash which caused a huge explosion and sent a "ball of flame" across the adjacent M602.

Mr James Anderson, chief constable of Greater Manchester, said that if the freight train tanks, several of which ruptured, had slipped on the motorway instead of falling the other way, the consequences could have been catastrophic.

The two who died were the driver of the passenger train, Liverpool, to Scarborough, and one of its 300 passengers.

Human error and possible signal or brake failure are likely to be the focus of a Department of Transport inquiry.

The collision was on a stretch of "plain" line, one track in each direction, with the two trains on the same track.

The crash was the second, between a freight and passenger train in Manchester in as many days and marks the latest in a spate of derailments and collisions which is causing British Rail serious concern.

In terms of passenger deaths, 1984 is the worst year since 1967, the year of the crash at Hither Green which killed 49. In six crashes between January and October 101 people were killed in 1947. Yesterday's crash brings to 17 the number of passengers

Papandreou demand puts damper on EEC summit

From Ian Murray, Dublin

Despite an intensive security operation, Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Greek Prime Minister, yesterday hijacked the European Council inside Dublin Castle and held it to ransom against payment of £1,500m of EEC money over the next six years.

The ten leaders had seemed on the point of reaching a long agreement on the many points which have been at issue in the EEC for years, when the Greek Prime Minister made his bid for money. It was cash for helping the poorer Mediterranean regions including the whole of Greece, which had been proposed in a plan drawn up by the Commission nearly three years earlier.

In the end, a patched-up agreement was possible which allows negotiations with Spain and Portugal to continue on all fronts and could make it possible for the Community to be enlarged by the target date of January 1986. But the Greek demands now present the Community with an expensive and difficult negotiation among members.

Just as the Community was on the point of ending the argument over the British

Grenada celebrates Blaize triumph

From Christopher Thomas, St George's, Grenada

Mr Herbert Blaize, aged 66, was sworn in as Prime Minister of Grenada in a brief, private ceremony at Government House last night. He was given a tumultuous welcome by hundreds of supporters when he flew in from his home on the Grenadian dependency island of Carriacou, 30 miles to the north.

Up on a hill above St George's, Sir Eric Gairy was in no mood for magnanimity. The former Prime Minister was furious. The election was fixed, unfair. He would challenge the result. Disappearing ink had been used.

His Grenada United Labour Party won only one of the 15 parliamentary seats contested in Monday's election, in an area of staunch traditional support just outside Grenville, the one-street town where Sir Eric was born 62 years ago.

Deathly calm follows panic in gas-stricken city

From Our Correspondent Delhi

As the death toll in the stricken city of Bhopal rose past 1,000 yesterday, with many more still to be counted, thousands more were fleeing into the surrounding countryside, heedless of government assurances that the leakage of methyl isocyanate from a Union Carbide pesticide plant had been sealed, and the factory closed.

An eye witness account from Bhopal says that the initial panic and confusion in the city has given way to a deathly calm. Everywhere people can be seen carrying the dead, most of them children, to stack them in piles outside the mortuaries, which cannot cope with the flood of dead. Many bodies are being buried in mass graves, and mass cremations are being held.

A United News of India correspondent reported: "Waiting women with babies in their arms and children clinging to their saris are moving out of Bhopal in any available means of transport." Some have fled up to 50 miles away.

At one stage yesterday, rumours of a fresh gas leak spread panic and many accidents took place on the roads as men, women and children fled in fear to the outskirts, leaving their belongings behind them. Many were hurt in the flight.

Thousands were still choking the hospitals and special medical posts seeking treatment, and the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Mr Arjun Singh, appealed for urgent help from the neighbouring provinces. Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister, flew to Bhopal to see the situation for himself.

He was told many stories of the horror which struck Bhopal on Monday, when the lethal leak occurred, sending a cloud of poisonous gas over the city.

For example, when volunteers broke down the doors of houses in one Bhopal suburb, Jayaprakashnagar, they found hundreds of bodies and no one alive. All the residents died. A municipal councillor said: "The army was late in arriving and the police also came too late."

Mr Gandhi said the Government was considering changing the policy of siting hazardous factories in residential areas. He told reporters that compensation would be sought from the factory's owners, saying: "We will also ask Union Carbide to pay compensation."

In Delhi, the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers believes that phosgene, another gas used in the production of insecticides, may have leaked. The ministry says it does not believe so many deaths could have been caused by the leakage of methyl isocyanate alone.

The authorities also say that the Union Carbide factory has been shut and cordoned off, and will not be allowed to restart production on the same site.

Although officials said that 546 deaths had actually been counted, the UNI said its reporters in Bhopal estimated that more than 1,200 people had died in the disaster.

The agency said 345 victims had already been buried at Bhopal's Sardars Manzil graveyard and a further 445 cremated in an area of the city area called Chola Vishram Ghar.

Staff at city hospitals said they feared the death toll had already exceeded 1,000 as some died in neighbouring towns after thousands of people fled the gas cloud.

NEW YORK: Union Carbide has closed a section of its pesticide plant in West Virginia as a precaution. The plant is very similar to the one in Bhopal. (Trevor Fishlock writes)

While the methyl-isocyanate production section is shut down, the company will investigate safety devices.

Disaster background, page 8

Heath resumes fight for GLC

By Julian Haviland Political Editor

Mr Edward Heath yesterday resumed his role as the Government's severest Conservative critic when he dismissed the Bill to abolish the Greater London Council and the six metropolitan county councils, saying there was no logic in Government policy towards local government.

Speaking in the Commons, against the second reading of the Bill, he said it was a major constitutional change without precedent, since there had been no public inquiry.

He predicted that the Government would be forced to have an overall London authority in place of the GLC, and advised Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, to have one ready for when the Bill was amended in the House of Lords.

Mr Heath's speech was marked by contemptuous references to Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport whose earlier speech he described as pathetic.

Cheered on by delighted Labour MPs, he recalled that the commitment to abolish was adopted by the Conservatives nine days after the 1983 general election was called. It was against the wishes of the party policy committee, set up the day after the manifesto, and without the agreement of London MPs.

Mr Heath said the Government justified their case by reference to the manifesto, but this was unconvincing. A democratic government still had to justify itself to Parliament.

He accused Mr Ridley and other ministers of abusing Tory councillors who had done remarkable work as members of the councils now under sentence, and argued that the effect of the changes would be to increase the Labour Party's power in the big cities. He did not see the point of handing power to his party's adversaries.

To Labour laughter he observed: "I value integrity in politicians enormously, but this is carrying integrity a little too far."

Woman is held hostage at children's home

Police surrounded the main offices of the National Children's Home, in Highbury Park, north London, last night, when a man believed to have a firearm was holding a woman hostage.

Officers succeeded in getting into part of the building and took over the telephone. One policeman speaking from the building told *The Times*: "There are no children here - only empty offices."

It's more than just the price that sets it apart. Quality in an age of change.

THE FAMOUS GROUND. FINEST SCOTCH WHISKY. James Watson & Co. Ltd. Glasgow & London.

Transport union defiant on contempt fine but to appeal over assets

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Leaders of Britain's biggest union have decided to sustain their refusal to pay a £200,000 contempt of court fine, but look set to appeal against the inevitable sequestration of assets.

The Transport and General Workers' Union is due to pay the fine on Monday, although it is bound by a conference decision to refuse to do so.

The union's executive, which ends a four-day meeting tomorrow, is however likely to appeal against the seizure of its £34 million assets.

The likelihood is that the union's cash in hand, £3.4 million in the 1983 accounts, will be made available to court-appointed officials. Under the favoured strategy there would be no attempt to move money to avoid the sequestrators.

The appeal would be based partly on the fact that the contempt has not been repeated since the fine was levied on November 26 and that there has been no attempt to "spirit funds away".

Austin Rover took the union to court for refusing to hold a strike ballot at its Cowley and Longbridge car plants in defiance of the Trade Union Act, 1984. The union flouted the law by making the stoppage official. The strike later collapsed after a shopfloor revolt.

An appeal by the TGWU will be seen by the Government as further evidence that unions are being forced to come to terms with the law. On Monday the executive of the National Union of Mineworkers took a more conciliatory line after a receiver was appointed to administer its affairs.

But union leaders last night drew a contrast between the miners and the transport workers because the miners' union has little income flowing in from members as most are either on strike or refusing to pay contributions.

In the 1983 accounts the TGWU reported an annual income from members' contributions of £37.7 million.

The new strategy by the TGWU is based on a gamble that the High Court would be prepared to limit seizure without an apology from the union.

But when Mr Justice Hodgson fined the union, he said it had committed "one of the worst cases of disobedience of orders of this court that there can ever have been".

Warning of civil unrest over rate capping

By Hugh Clayton

Union and council leaders gave warnings yesterday of civil unrest if the Government persisted in "rate-capping" 16 Labour-led councils next year.

Mrs Margaret Hodge, Labour leader of Islington Council in London, said there was a risk of "great disruption yet again in our streets because there is enormous despair amongst the young and the blacks in those urban areas we represent".

Mr Fred Jarvis, chairman of the local government committee of the Trades Union Congress, said that rate-capping would cost thousands of jobs in council workforces and in companies which depended on councils for work.

He said that if there was turmoil in the inner cities next year it would be the Government's fault. "There is no way in which what they are proposing to do is what the local people want."

He and Mr Jarvis were speaking after a closed conference at the London headquarters of the TUC of more than 100 representatives of 24 unions, with members working for councils and 40 councillors from the authorities which employ the unions' members.

Mr Jarvis said there was agreement between the unions and Labour councillors about the need for "non-compliance" with rate-capping laws.

"The calculation is that the Government will in the end change tack," Mr Jarvis said. "It did not go through with the challenge to Liverpool city council that it originally intended this year. What they now face is something on a much bigger scale."

Mrs Hodge said that her council could face "a total collapse of services" if the Government did not relent next year and the council accordingly refused to levy rates.



Crisis in the coalfields

Scargill's executive rebuff

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The dominant left-centre coalition on the executive committee of the National Union of Mineworkers is deeply divided over its strategy of defiance of the High Court, and Mr Arthur Scargill, the union's president, suffered his first serious rebuff at the hands of his executive, it became clear yesterday.

As more details emerge of the executive which decided against cooperation with the receiver appointed by the High Court to manage the union's funds, it became clear that the leadership is divided over the next step in the 39-week coal strike.

Some union leaders fear that the special conference decision taken in London two days ago to deny assistance to the receiver will lead to further actions for contempt and huge fines in addition to the £200,000 already levied for defiance of orders that the strike is unlawful.

The internal union conflict cuts across traditional political boundaries, with Communists and moderates siding with the hard left. Well-placed sources within the industry argue that the executive is showing signs of confusion and weariness.

Those supporting Mr Scargill on the executive were: Mr Michael McCarthy, the vice-president; Mr Eric Clarke, secretary of the Scottish miners; Mr Harry Hamilton (Cumbria); Mr Abe Moffat (Scottish craftsmen); Mr Idwal Morgan (Cokemakers); Mr Ted Mackay (North Wales); Mr Ray Chadborn, and Mr Henry Richardson (Nottinghamshire); Mr Ron Dunn (Durham mechanics); Mr Sid Vincent (Lancashire); and Mr Gordon Butler (North Derbyshire).

Those opposing him were: Mr Emlyn Williams and Mr George Rees (South Wales); Mr Dennis Murphy (Northumberland); Mr Bill Stobbs (Durham); Mr Jim Colgan (Midlands); and Mr Wes Chambers (Kent).

Those abstaining were Mr Jack Taylor, Mr Owen Briscoe, and Mr John Weaver (Yorkshire); Mr Trevor Bell (Cosa) and Mr Jim Dowling (Midlands craftsmen); Mr Jack Jones (Leicestershire); and Mr Ken Toon (South Derbyshire) did not attend.

Mr Scargill's opponents argued that any collaboration with the High Court or its agents would be a severe blow to the morale of the militants on the picket lines who are sustaining the strike, and their number included four left-wingers, the representatives from South Wales, Durham, and Kent.

The timetable for legal actions involving the NUM in the courts is as follows: Tomorrow: Reconvened hearing of the emergency order which appointed a receiver to control union funds; Monday: Attempts by working miners to have receivers appointed to run union finances in the Yorkshire and Derbyshire areas; Wednesday: Adjourned hearing of action brought by a moderate in the NUM's power group to prevent a striker taking the group's seat on the national executive; Friday week: Working miners seek to have the 24 members of the NUM executive held personally liable for payment of the £200,000.

NUM chiefs swear to keep law

By Craig Seton

Four moderate members of the executive of the National Union of Mineworkers have sworn affidavits pledging to observe the law and uphold court orders in response to the attempts in the High Court to make the 24 members of the executive individually responsible for payment of the £200,000 contempt fine.

They are Mr Ted McKay, NUM agent for North Wales; Mr Ken Toon, secretary, south Derbyshire; Mr Jack Jones, secretary, Leicestershire; and Mr Trevor Bell, secretary of COSA, the union's white-collar section.

All four men have appointed solicitors and taken advice.

The defence of the four men will centre on their claim that they were not personally responsible for the original contempt of court. The remaining members of the executive are receiving legal advice from a firm of London solicitors appointed by the union.

Three of the four men were among 11 executive members to support a recommendation at Monday's executive meeting that the NUM's dispersed cash assets should be brought back to Britain to bring the miners back into compliance with the law. Mr Bell abstained. That motion was proposed by Mr Toon, and although it was carried - only six voted against - it was overturned later when delegates at a special conference voted to continue defiance of the law.

In his defence, Mr McKay will pledge to do nothing which would make the NUM liable to a contempt of court. He will also give an assurance to the court that he intends to act lawfully, as he has done in the past, and will uphold any orders laid down by the court.

Shotgun thrown from window in siege

A gunman, aged 20, was last night still holding hostage his former woman friend, aged 40, in her Norfolk home. A shotgun was thrown out of the house in the late afternoon.

Mr Michael Hood moved in on Monday evening and took Mrs Sandra Yeoman, a mother of four, hostage at her detached home in Shipham Road in the village of Carbrooke, Norfolk.

Her husband, David, and their four children aged 5, 11, 14 and 18 managed to get out of the house to safety. Part of the village was sealed off as police marksmen took up positions

New Labour clash looms over Militant

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Labour Party is heading for a fierce new dispute over the Militant Tendency with demands from the party's centre-right for the ruling national executive committee to take action against proven cases of infiltration.

The move by the party's right dominated appeals and mediation committees follows the decision of the NEC by one vote not to uphold the recommendation of the Rhondda constituency party that one of its members should be expelled because of his activities in support of the tendency.

It was stated that Mr Brychan Davies had sold the Militant newspaper and given money to the organization.

The NEC's decision infuriated the Rhondda party and the appeals committee, which also proposed Mr Davies's expulsion. At a private meeting on Monday the appeals committee decided not only to look into Mr Davies's case again, but also to ask the NEC next week to rethink its attitude to the whole question of Militant infiltration, so that the party's conference policy that membership of Militant is incompatible with membership of the party is properly implemented.

The left wing last night saw the move as an attempt by the right to start a new and much wider inquiry into Militant's activities. Militant said: "This could lead to a much bigger witchhunt than ever before and will again turn the party in on itself."

Many on the centre-right are unhappy with the actions taken so far to curb Militant. They fear there will be many more Militant MPs in the next Parliament.

Science report The weak links that may cause cancer

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Several illnesses are associated with a break contained in one of the chromosomes of the body. That break can be seen when scrutinized under the microscope.

Laboratory work with tissue cultures has identified a large number of chemicals which will cause breaks to occur. When those findings are coupled with other research, there is accumulating evidence that such defects in chromosomes are a possible cause of turning cells from a normal to a cancerous state.

Those ideas have been reinforced by the latest research, which has found 51 previously unknown weak spots on human chromosomes. Moreover, the experiments have indicated that some people may have a predisposition to breaking these thread-like structures within cells which contain the genes carrying the blueprint of heredity.

The work by Dr George Yunis and Dr Le Sueur, of the University of Minnesota, which was reported in New York at the weekend, is published in the next issue of *Science*. The subject of the paper is the discovery of fragile sites, or the weak spots where breaks may occur when a specific compound is added to the medium in which the tissue culture is growing.

Dr Yunis describes the weak points as constitutive fragile sites, because they appear to be present in all people and even in non-human primates.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia each 20c; Belgium 1.50 fr; Canada 25c; France 1.50 fr; Germany 1.50 DM; Hong Kong 2.00 HK\$; India 1.50 rupee; Japan 1.50 yen; New Zealand 1.50 NZ\$; Norway 1.50 kr; Singapore 1.50 S\$; South Africa 1.50 rand; Sweden 1.50 kr; Switzerland 1.50 fr; Taiwan 1.50 NT\$; Thailand 1.50 baht; USA 1.50 \$; Yugoslavia 1.50 dinar.

Anglo-Irish exchanges smooth path

From Richard Ford, Dublin

Talks between officials leading to an Anglo-Irish summit meeting early next year are likely to begin within the next two weeks after a meeting between the British and Irish Prime Ministers.

They had a 15-minute exchange at the EEC heads of government summit meeting in Dublin Castle, and both sides took the unusual step of announcing the meeting soon after it took place.

Clearly both Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Dr Garret FitzGerald, recognizing the potential damage to Anglo-Irish relations as a result of the controversy after the Chequers summit, decided that it was better to announce that they would proceed.

The meeting, late on Monday night, was described by a British spokesman as "very friendly" and both Prime Ministers had agreed to "continue their discussions, the subject being peace and stability in Northern Ireland and reconciliation".

An Irish government spokesman, asked about relations between the two countries, said: "I don't think they were ever off the rails, though I can see how people reacted to events after Chequers."

"They decided to talk about the meeting, because some of the fall-out after Chequers may have left doubts in some people's minds."

An Irish government spokesman, asked about relations between the two countries, said: "I don't think they were ever off the rails, though I can see how people reacted to events after Chequers."

"They decided to talk about the meeting, because some of the fall-out after Chequers may have left doubts in some people's minds."

IRA lettering on trawler, court is told

A hand grenade rolled by the feet of an Irish police officer as he began a search of a gun-running trawler which had a canvas sheet with the lettering "IRA" painted on it hanging over the side, the Special Criminal Court in Dublin was told yesterday (Richard Ford writes).

In the accommodation quarters of the 67ft trawler, Maria Ann, was also found a bag containing a number of revolvers and assorted ammunition. Inspector Patrick Ryan told the court. The inspector also found firearms manuals and a spiral notebook with an inventory of weapons and their cost.

The hold of the trawler, based in Kerry, packed with kitbags, trunks and wooden boxes which contained a huge quantity of weapons and ammunition, the inspector said. The haul was discovered after two boarding parties from naval vessels went on board the boat off the Kerry coast last September.

Five men are on trial accused of possession of firearms, ammunition and explosives with intent to endanger life. The hearing continues today.

Auction 'ring' raised in the Commons

By Our Sale Room Correspondent

The Times's investigation into allegations of an auction ring at a West Country sale were raised in the Commons yesterday.

Mr Andrews Faulds, Labour MP for Warley East, tabled a parliamentary question carrying the threat of a possible police investigation. Meanwhile, Mr John Partridge confirmed his intention to resign from the British Antique Dealers' Association.

Mr Faulds is to ask the Attorney General whether he will refer to the Director of Public Prosecutions the circumstances surrounding the auction sale of furniture from the estate of Mrs Elizabeth Dreyfus held by Messrs Bruton Knowles in Gloucester on July 19 and ask him to initiate proceedings against those dealers who have contravened the Auctions (Bidding Agreements) Act.

The question takes up the report in *The Times* on Monday concerning the British Antique Dealers' Association inquiry into an allegation that members might have taken part in an auction ring.

The inquiry followed a formal complaint from Mr John Partridge of Partridge Fine Art in Bond Street, and Mr David Nickerson of Mallet's. Partridge and Mallet's are the two biggest furniture dealers in London. The inquiry exonerated its members, but was not thorough as it might have been.

The Auctions (Bidding Agreements) Act 1927 outlaws any bidding agreement by which a dealer offers another person a financial incentive to refrain from bidding. In the case of genuine bidding on joint account, where the piece is to be jointly owned by dealers, the Act says that the auctioneers should be informed of the agreement in writing before the sale.

That would suggest that Partridge and Mallet's who commissioned a third dealer, Mr Maurice Turpin, to buy the walnut bookcase for them could also have contravened the Act because no letter was lodged.

BA unveils restrained new livery

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

British Airways took off for privatization yesterday in a sober new suit of royal blue, pearl grey, and a brilliant flash of red.

Its much heralded new look is unexpectedly restrained after the razzmatazz of the airline's space-age television advertisement. In the words of Lord King, the chairman, it expresses a mood of "quite confidence".

The airline's entire fleet will be refurbished over the next two years in a £42 million facelift that for many will recall the dignified days of BOAC.

The lower hull and tailplane will be in a rich deep blue, the upper fuselage in soft pale grey.



A "laser flash" of brilliant red striping lights up the side of the aircraft, and on the fin is BA's coat of arms with its motto To Fly, To Serve. Aircraft interiors follow the same theme, with deep blue seat fabrics speckled with red, and grey carpets flecked in red and blue.

30,000 Scots teachers to walk out today

All secondary schools in Scotland will be closed or seriously affected today when nearly 30,000 members of the Educational Institute of Scotland, the largest of the Scottish teachers' unions, strike.

Every EIS member in primary and secondary education has been advised not to work in support of a demand for an independent review of salaries and working conditions. The EIS claims teachers' pay has fallen 30 per cent relative to other professional groups in the last five years.

Sale room Tang horse sets record

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A magnificent Chinese pottery horse, standing more than two feet high, sold for \$660,000 (unpublished estimate \$300,000-400,000) or £346,584 at Sotheby's in New York on Monday, setting a new auction price record for pottery of the Tang Dynasty (618 to 906 AD).

It is a chestnut horse with a white mane and green saddle and is illustrated in many books on Chinese ceramics as one of the finest Tang horses in existence.

It comes from the collection of Ezekiel Schloss, Schloss, who



Welcome aboard Saudia's flight from London to Jeddah.

There are always British air hostesses on Saudia's flights to Jeddah. Saudia. The international airline that makes you feel at home. For further details, call 01 995 7777, or in Manchester, 061 833 9575.

saudia
SAUDI ARABIAN AIRLINES A MEMBER OF IATA
Welcome to our world.



السعودية

'Oh dear, I'm in trouble,' the captain said as his frigate hit London Bridge

Pilot's warning to use tugs ignored by commander

From Colin Hughes, Portsmouth

Commander Colin Hamilton, Captain of HMS Jupiter, said "Oh dear, I'm in trouble" as his Leander class frigate drifted broadside on and collided with London Bridge, a court martial in Portsmouth was told yesterday. He had tried to turn without tugs.

Commander Hamilton, aged 40, commanded an offshore patrol vessel, HMS Leeds Castle, during the Falklands conflict, and was in command of the 2,900-tonne HMS Jupiter on London Bridge by ignoring a senior Port of London pilot's advice.

The collision caused £25,000 worth of damage to the bridge, involving a granite section of one of its two central supports about eight inches.

It took three weeks to repair the ship's dented hull and mountings.

Commander Hamilton, who lives in Devonport, faces penalties ranging from reprimand to dismissal from his ship on half pay.

The frigate, on which the Prince of Wales served as a junior officer, dropped berth from alongside the permanently moored museum, HMS Belfast, on June 13, to turn down river before leaving the Port of London Pool after a one-week visit.

Lieutenant Mark Rothwell, Jupiter's navigating officer, said that he advised the captain to use two tugs to swing the 372ft long ship in a stretch of water 1,200ft long and 560ft wide.

Mr John Cooley, the Admiralty-approved pilot on board, who had performed that turn with 200 ships, repeatedly asked Commander Hamilton to tie on to two tugs, said Lieutenant

Commander Jim McGowan, for the prosecuting officer.

When Mr Cooley realised that the captain was going to turn "by eye", using the ship's power, he gave a firm warning that it would be contrary to his professional advice, Lieutenant Commander McGowan said.

As Jupiter moved upstream Lieutenant Rothwell stood by the captain on the bridge and as he saw the Belfast fall astern said: "Sir, you are not going to leave the wheel over too late are you?"

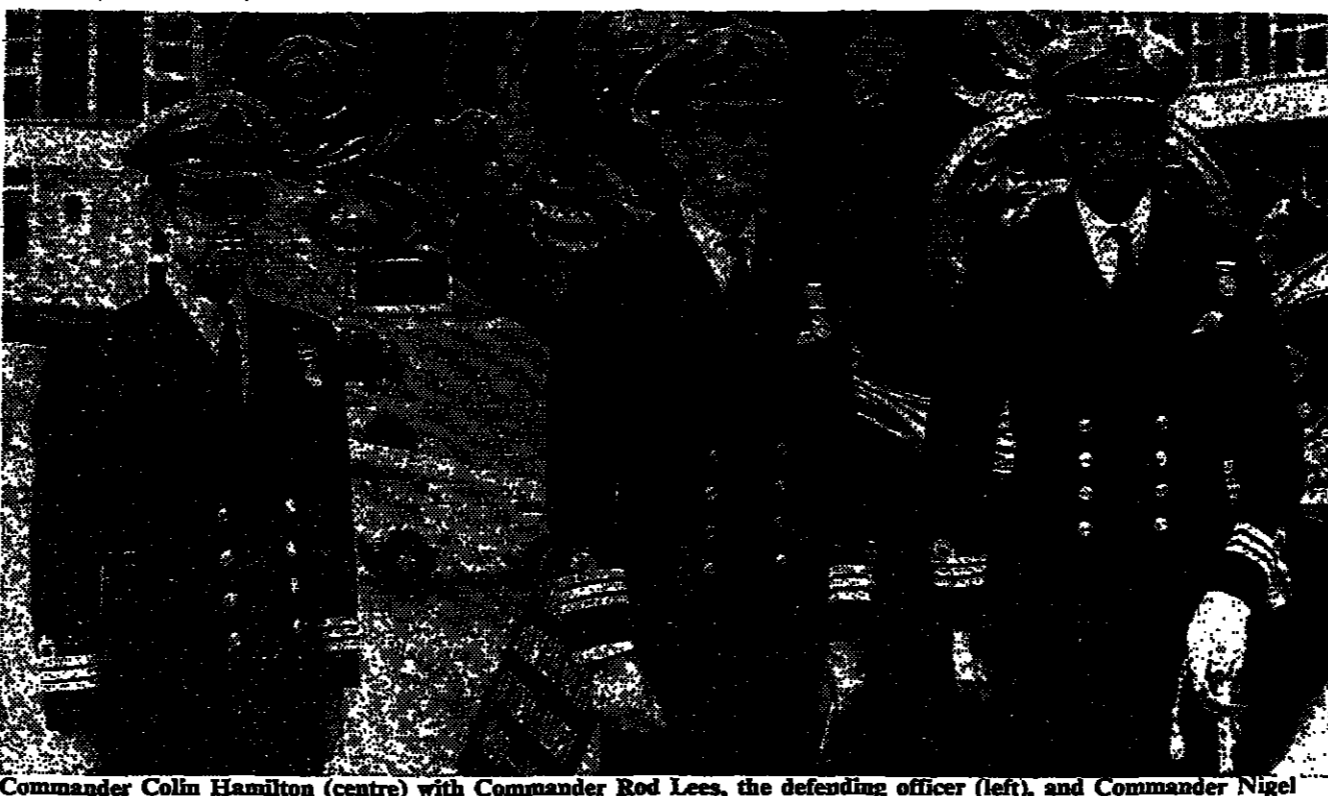
Twice more the navigating officer said: "I think you should wheel over now sir", before the captain began to wheel to port. By that time, Lieutenant Commander McGowan said, the ship was 400 feet from London Bridge, being carried at 100 feet a minute by the tide towards its arches.

Once the captain saw that he could not complete the turn and collision was inevitable "he took speedy and correct action to minimize the damage", Lieutenant Commander McGowan said.

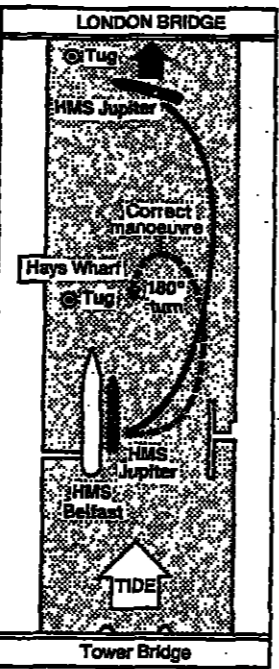
Mr Cooley asked the captain if he wanted the two tugs, Iona and Sun Swale, to pull the frigate clear. Commander Hamilton "appeared somewhat stunned", and said: "I might as well say it now, I apologize".

Commander Hamilton denies failing properly to plan the manoeuvre, turning after being warned that one tug was too far away, and failing to call in the other tug in sufficient time.

Lieutenant Commander McGowan said the captain did not believe the pilot was aware of the superior speed and manoeuvrability of naval vessels. The hearing continues today.



Commander Colin Hamilton (centre) with Commander Rod Lees, the defending officer (left), and Commander Nigel Essenhigh, his navigation adviser. (Photograph: Bill Warhurst)



Collision course for HMS Jupiter (above)

Late videos blamed for tired children

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Teachers are allowing primary school children, aged nine, 10, and 11, to sleep through lessons because they are tired after watching videos at home until late at night, an MP told a select committee yesterday.

Mr Harry Greenway, Conservative MP for Ealing North, said that when he visited a school on the outskirts of London recently he saw two children fast asleep at 10.30am. He said: "The teacher said she could not wake them because they had to have some sleep sometime. She said they were often up all night."

Mr Greenway, who was questioning the National Union of Teachers (NUT) as part of the inquiry by the Select Committee on Education into primary schools, added that 80 per cent of children in that school had video recorders at home, and about a third of those had parents who were unemployed. He asked what could be done about children

staying up until late to watch videos.

Miss Joan Davenport, a headteacher of Woodhouse Park School, Manchester, and a member of the NUT's executive, replied that many children in her school watched videos very late or had a television in their bedrooms.

She added: "By lunchtime many are very tired and some come to school at 9am yawning."

Mr Bill Rippon, head of Redwood Junior School, Salford, Derbyshire, said that there was evidence that because of videos the behaviour of many young children caused more concern now than it did 10 years ago.

He said: "There is some evidence that the indiscriminate watching of television and now video recorders where they will see very violent scenes, and certainly hear very violent and aggressive language, causes children to imitate."

Mother's stand on caning reconciled

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

An order placing two boys in care because their mother refused to allow them to be caned, was lifted yesterday by the crown court in Cardiff.

The boys had been kept away from their school in Mid Glamorgan, for more than a year, after the youngest was caned on the hand for missing detention. The mother said that they should be allowed to attend the school 400 yards from their home, but she refused to let them be subjected to "inhuman and barbarous treatment".

Mid Glamorgan County Council insisted that they could not be excluded from the normal discipline of the school and offered them a place in another near by, which does not use the cane. That offer was rejected.

The court was told yesterday that since the care order in October the two teenage boys had been living with relatives and attending a third school which has just abolished corporal punishment.

An agreement reached in court means that the boys will be allowed to return to live with their mother while attending their new school, and transport costs will be met by the council.

Mr Malcolm Bishop, representing the boys, said: "They have always fully supported the action taken by their mother."

The mother, who has been supported in her fight by the Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment (STOPP), said: "It has been a long fight but I would go through it all again. I believe caning can be very damaging."

Youth who killed couple given 'life'

David Carty, aged 18, was found guilty at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of the murder of two teenage sweethearts whose bodies were left in a builder's dumper truck. He was sentenced to youth custody for life.

Robert Vaughan, aged 17, died when his throat was cut. His fiancée, Michelle Sadler, also aged 17, was sexually assaulted and then strangled with a length of wire. They were attacked at the premises in Southwark, south London, where the two youths worked.

Mr Ron Vaughan, the dead boy's father, said of Carty: "I am not glad he has gone down. He was only a seventeen-year-old boy at the time."

Carty, of Peterhill House, Linsey Street, Bermondsey, had denied murdering the couple.

Doctor failed to help dying cancer patient

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

A terminally ill cancer patient suffered great distress and severe pain in the hours before his death because a hospital doctor failed to answer a call from nursing staff for at least three hours and the staff refused to call another doctor, the Ombudsman has found.

In a report published yesterday, Sir Cecil Clothier, the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Health Service, said that there was "inordinate delay" in the patient receiving medical attention. "This was a failure in basic medical care and a serious failure in the service which the health authority had a duty to provide."

Sir Cecil said that drug records appeared to have been altered, and that "while certain staff told me they could not now recall the patient, they were none the less emphatic about his condition at various times during the night."

In a separate case, a hospital inquiry had found that an elderly female patient had been assaulted but the health authority upheld a nursing auxiliary's appeal against her dismissal.

She then went back to work on a ward with another nurse who had been on duty when the

alleged assault took place, although she claimed not to have noticed bruising round the patient's lips and eyes, or congealed blood round her nostrils which day staff saw when they came on duty.

Sir Cecil criticized staff for failing to report the grandmother's complaint that she had been hit, and for delays in completing an accident form and in telling the patient's granddaughter about tests on her grandmother's injuries.

Report of the Health Service Commission, selected investigations April to September, 1984. (Stationery Office, £9.90.)

Northampton General Hospital opened an inquiry yesterday into a medical mishap that killed Linda Shobbridge, aged 17, who died in July from a burst appendix after three family doctors had failed to diagnose her condition.

When she was finally admitted to hospital there was a four-hour wait before she was seen by a doctor. After surgery she was put on a life-support machine, which was switched off nine days later.

At an inquest last week the coroner recorded a verdict of death by misadventure.

Servicemen accuse Private Eye

Eight Servicemen charged under the Official Secrets Act yesterday asked a judge in the High Court in London to jail Private Eye editor, Mr Richard Ingrams, for contempt of court.

The five airmen and three soldiers claimed that an article in the current issue of the magazine was "highly damaging" and "wickedly prejudicial" to their trial, scheduled for April.

Mr Dermot Wright, for seven of the Servicemen, told Lord Justice Watkins that the article contained "shocking facts."

They were: that the Soviet Union had gained access to classified codes; that secret operations penetrating deep into the Soviet Union had been rendered useless; that reports of the damage caused had stunned President Reagan's advisers; and that a KGB plan including homosexual blackmail was involved.

Neither Mr Ingrams nor the magazine was represented at the hearing.

The judge refused to issue an immediate Bench warrant for the editor's arrest and adjourned the hearing until tomorrow.

Award for village scheme

Elm village, a development of 162 homes on four acres of derelict railway land next to the Grand Union Canal north of St Pancras Station in London, was given a Housing Centre Trust golden jubilee award last night by Sir George Young, Under Secretary of State of Environment (Our Property Correspondent writes).

Camden council provided the land, the Housing Corporation and the Halifax and Nationwide building societies provided the finance, and the developers were the United Kingdom Housing Trust.

Mr John Parker, the Belfast company's chairman and chief executive, said that the order would guarantee jobs in the company's steel working group and outfitting sections for up to two years.

Beef and lamb sales fall

Consumption of beef and lamb in Britain has dropped by a fifth in the past four years, according to a report published yesterday by Taylor Nelson, a market research company.

The fall in the red meat's popularity is attributed to cost and concern about eating excessive fat.

Banks' computer data 'inadequately protected'

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

Bank's computer systems are inadequately protected even though sensitive data and large sums of money are stored electronically on them, according to an expert on computer security.

Mr Vincent Gallo, technical director of Open Computer Security, outlines his fears in this month's issue of Banking Technology. He says: "Such is the proliferation of microcomputers in the home, and the growth of computer studies at an early age in our schools, that we are creating a generation with the expertise to manipulate computer systems."

"All the equipment required to tap into an unprotected

system can be purchased off-the-shelf in any main shopping centre at the cost of only a few hundred pounds."

The allegations appear a week after a second breach of security on Prestel, the British Telecom information system. Home computer enthusiasts are believed to be responsible.

The main clearing banks were asked to comment on Mr Gallo's allegations. At the time of publication only National Westminster had issued a statement. It read: "We place great emphasis on the security of our systems, but for the obvious reasons we do not discuss the precautions we take."

Pirate Asian films seized in Southall

Police officers seized more than 100 video recorders and thousands of cassettes in an anti-piracy raid on Indian shops, homes, and businesses in the West London suburb of Southall yesterday. (David Hewson writes).

The Federation Against Copyright Theft (FACT), which organised the raid with the Metropolitan Police, said that several individuals were likely to face court proceedings. Mr Peter Duffy, a former Scotland Yard officer who heads FACT's investigation unit, said that the effect of piracy meant that from more than 100 Asian cinemas in Britain three or four years ago, there were now none.

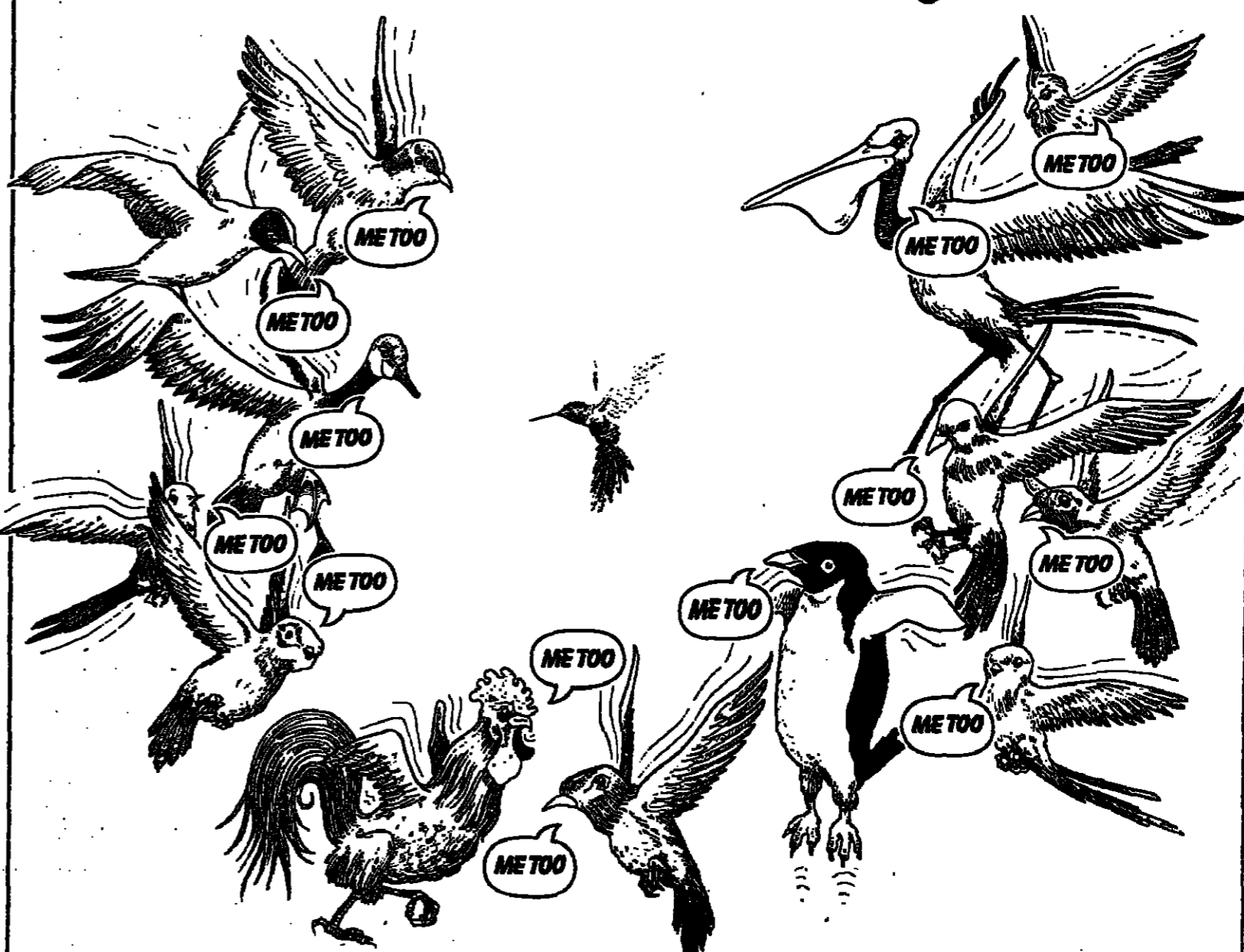
Fears raised over tenants' repairs proposal

Council tenants given the right to carry out house repairs which are usually the local authority's responsibility could end up paying the bill, the National Consumer Council says in response to the Government's draft "right to repair" regulations (Our Property Correspondent writes).

The regulations, under the Housing and Building Control Act, 1984, would give tenants the right to have repairs costing between £20 and £200, carried out by themselves or a builder at the local council's expense, provided the council agrees.

The consumer council fears that the procedures are so complex that most tenants will not be able to understand them.

It seems there are only two builders to choose from these days.



One is called Bovis Construction. And the other, 'me too'. Because whenever a project is built under a Management Contract it's using a form of building pioneered, developed and brought to professional perfection by Bovis alone.

In fact, it's taken the rest of the industry a full decade to land on our idea - bringing, very often, some of their old habits with them.

So why build your hopes on a copy when the original's on the other end of 01-422 3488? (You'll probably find our price better than me too's too.)

Bovis
Bovis Construction Limited
Operating the fee system of building.

Please send me more information on the Bovis Fee System of building.

Name _____

Company/Organisation _____

Position _____

Address _____

Post to: Bernard Hodgson, Marketing Director,
Bovis Construction Limited, Bovis House, Northolt Rd.,
Harrow, Middlesex HA2 0EE. Or call him on (01)-422 3488.

Member of the P&G Group.

Students will still be heavily subsidized

EDUCATION

Notwithstanding a barrage of protest from Conservative backbenchers and criticism from the Opposition, the Government's plan to increase parental contributions to student maintenance by £39 million was defended in the Commons by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

While dismissing Labour complaints as being in the never-never land of no economic constraint, Sir Keith Joseph conceded to Conservative critics that one of the severest aspects of the proposal was that it deflated deeply entrenched expectations - it was a shock to many, if not all, of the households affected.

He pointed out that any further phasing would cost money that in his opinion was needed to prevent the science research base from suffering seriously.

Over 50 Conservatives stood to ask questions when Sir Keith Joseph said that the contributions towards students' tuition fees were last required in the academic year 1976-77.

Sir William Sturges (Wokingham, C) said that as the change was made by Mr. Mulley, as he was in 1977, there had previously been a painstaking inquiry by the University Grants Committee and the vice chancellors, and considerable consultation.

What is placing great strain on the loyalty of many Tory backbenchers is the continued failure to disclose in an essentially financial regulation a change which in the view of many will have fundamental consequences to entry into higher education in future.

Sir Keith Joseph: I do not accept the use of the word "fundamental". After all, it is the Government's duty from time to time to review the balance between the taxpayer's contribution and the family-pludent contribution to the cost of higher education. That is what the Government has done. That does involve a change but not a fundamental change.

Mr. Mark Carlisle (Warrington South, C) the former Secretary of State for Education and Science: In 1979 we said officially that our first priority on student grants, as money became available, would be to reduce the parental contribution.

What has changed since then to bring about such an apparent dramatic change in our proposals?

Sir Keith Joseph: The change in circumstances has made it right for the Government to pursue, above all, the constraint of public spending in relation to the nation's revenue as a whole. We have had to bear that constantly in mind.

Mr. Gordon Wilson (Dundee East, SNP): While expressing the strongest possible opposition to changes in grants because of the hardship it will cause, the decision to put a greater burden on parents will have repercussions on Scottish universities particularly which run a four year graduation course. The Government does not seem to have taken account of that.

Sir Keith Joseph: Whether it is a three year or a four year course, and I cannot tell which is the more advantageous in the circumstances, the subsidy paid by the taxpayer towards the student's higher education is large.

Mr. Ralph Howell (Norfolk North, C): Many Conservative backbenchers fully support Sir Keith Joseph's action. Probably quite a few who have signed the motion against the proposals wish they had not done so.

Sir Keith Joseph: I hope the whole House will bear in mind that taxpayers of all income levels contribute heavily indeed to the higher education of a minority whose education, it is true, is a benefit to society. But it also benefits those students.

Mr. Marilyn Rees (Leeds, South and Morley, Lab): I agree with Sir Keith Joseph's facts about 1976-77 when the matter of national investment in the country's future. Why did Sir Keith Joseph not have a proper inquiry before putting the proposals forward?

Sir Keith Joseph: MPs have not perhaps taken into account the Government's view of the urgent needs of the science research base to be given extra money. To some extent higher education can be an investment for the country's own responsibility for revealing it - was focused on the desire not to deny access to those whose household circumstances might otherwise deny it. That is what the Government has studiously tried to do.

Mr. Charles Morrison (Devizes, C) said students were a minority but they had received assistance as a matter of principle. That assistance was thought of as a matter of national investment in the country's future. Why did Sir Keith Joseph not have a proper inquiry before putting the proposals forward?

Mr. Morrison: There should have been inquiry

Sir Keith Joseph: MPs have not perhaps taken into account the Government's view of the urgent needs of the science research base to be given extra money. To some extent higher education can be an investment for the country's own responsibility for revealing it - was focused on the desire not to deny access to those whose household circumstances might otherwise deny it. That is what the Government has studiously tried to do.

Mr. Giles Radice, chief Opposition spokesman on education, said amid laughter: I wonder if I might come to his assistance? In view of the opposition so fearfully expressed in the House and outside over the last



Mr. Morrison: There should have been inquiry

few weeks, will be admit that his proposals are unacceptable, because they introduce charges for tuition fees which is breaking a principle: because they fail to recognize the 14 per cent decline in the real value of the student grant since 1979; and because they make students and parents pay for the scientific research that the whole country needs.

He should immediately abandon his proposals, establish a review of support for all in further and higher education and go back to the Treasury for the extra money needed for research.

Sir Keith Joseph: He still seems to be living in the never-never land of no economic constraints. The Labour Party made charges towards tuition fees for seven years before altering it.

Though he says student maintenance grants have fallen 14 per cent in recent years, that coincides with a record level of applications and of accepted entries to higher education.

After it was revealed that 1,800 representations had been received, Mr. Andrew Mackay (East Berkshire, C) said: He must be aware of these massive representations that in many cases there will be real and sudden hardship. Would it not be more prudent to withdraw these ill-considered proposals? (Conservative cheers.)

Instead, would he announce a full inquiry into the financing of higher education including a closer look at the merits of a loan scheme?

Sir Keith Joseph: I accept that the proposals are a shock to not all the households affected. I cannot say more than that.

Mr. Edward Taylor (South East, C): While he has advanced a powerful case, there is genuine complaint about the speed with which the decision was made and the suddenness of the changes that will disrupt carefully planned family budgets.

Would he be willing to look again at the phasing of his proposals? In any review is there any place for a loan scheme?

Sir Keith Joseph: I have accepted from the start that 11 months is by no means ideal. But the gentle words of Mr. Taylor which hides the fact that any phasing would cost money and money, which in my judgment, is needed as a national priority to prevent the science research base from suffering perhaps in some grave and serious form.

Mr. Mark Carlisle (Warrington South, C) said: I realize that some students, and it is certainly not 43 per cent of all students, do not receive all that they might expect, but there are record numbers of students in universities and polytechnics and record numbers are paying.

Mr. Nicholas Budgen (Wolverhampton South West, C): Why is it not possible for him to take an opportunity, long before this decision, to hold an informal discussion those likely to be affected by it?

Sir Keith Joseph: The problem of preparing for public expenditure discussions which are inevitably in confidence presents difficulties. I can accept that a long, as it were, intellectual march to what the Government has decided would have had certain advantages, but

ask him to face up to the problem of public expenditure discussions.

Mr. Derek Fatchett (Leeds Central, Lab): Fears exist among parents and students about future funding of university and polytechnic courses. Would he give a clear commitment that it is not his intention during the lifetime of this Government to introduce a loan scheme for students?

Sir Keith Joseph: The Government has already put on record that loan schemes are not at the moment on the agenda. If the Government wished to bring them back on to the agenda, an announcement would be made and consultation would be embarked upon.

Mr. Patrick Cormack (South Staffordshire, C): Does he remember coming before the Select Committee in the last Parliament and endorsing the policy which had been advanced by Mr. Mark Carlisle on parental contributions? What is the point of devoting extra resources if the students will not be able to afford to take advantage of them?

Sir Keith Joseph: I do not accept the second part of his question. It does not follow from the Government's announcement that there will be fewer applications for the science, technology and engineering places which we are deliberately increasing in number.

He said later: I am receiving a large number of expressions of opinion from parents, directly and through MPs which I cannot help taking seriously.

Mr. Neil Hamilton (Tatton, C): Will he accept that there is no demonstrable link between the amounts of public expenditure on higher education and the performance of the economy? Mr. Hamilton's arguments that purport to show there is are humbug.

Sir Keith Joseph: I agree with every word.

Later, Mr. John Biffen, leader of the House, deputizing for the Prime Minister who was in Dublin, faced more questions on the issue.

Mr. John Goss (Hendon North, C) asked: Would he ensure that we may be in further satisfaction at the direct in which the Government is leading us by a review of the direction with regard not only to student grants but also to the taxation of VAT on books and equipment in external studies of the BBC and cuts in the British Council?

Mr. Biffen: It is one of his engaging characteristics that he has never been one to back in satisfaction. A distinguished member of his sat in his house below the gateway as a member of the fourth party, and the manifesto he has just outlined is appropriate for that.

Mr. Frank Dobson (Holborn and St. Pancras, Lab): Will he also suggest to the Prime Minister there is a ready-made budget in the education budget if the Government will immediately cut the estimated £30 million subsidy to the public schools by abolishing the assisted places scheme. (Labour cheers.)

Mr. Biffen: This debate can be set in many contexts, but I doubt if most Conservatives, advocating reconsideration of the policy would choose that route.

Government has landed itself in a ghastly mess - Heath

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Government has landed itself in a ghastly mess over its plans to abolish the Greater London Council and the six metropolitan county councils, and there was no logic in its approach to local government as a whole, Mr. Edward Heath, the former Conservative Prime Minister, said in the Commons when MPs resumed the second reading debate on the Local Government Bill.

Mr. Heath (Old Bexley and Sidcup) said the measure, which abolishes these councils, was a major constitutional change, and it was without precedent because there had not been any public inquiry as a basis for it.

The case against the GLC and the metropolitan counties (he said) remains still completely unproven.

Mr. Heath advised Mr. Patrick Jenkin (Secretary of State for the Environment) to be ready with a plan for the overall government of London to go with the rest of the Bill if the House of Lords amended the Bill.

Mr. Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, when he opened today's debate, predicted there would be substantial staff savings when borough and district councils took over highway responsibilities, following the abolition of the GLC and the metropolitan counties.

The House also had before it an Opposition amendment declining to give a second reading to the Bill because of an attack on local democracy, threat to services and additional costs to ratepayers inherent in the proposals.

Mr. Ridley said transport functions accounted for more than 40 per cent of GLC and metropolitan county expenditure. Under the Bill roads and traffic management would be transferred to the boroughs and districts which were in many cases doing much of the work already.

I do not believe, (he said) that great city councils like Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool and Sheffield, whatever the eccentricities of their political life, are not capable of handling their own roads and traffic in sensible cooperation with neighbouring districts.

In some cases the districts might need to recruit a limited number of specialist council staff. But many boroughs and districts had made it clear to the Government that they would not need anything like the numbers - nearly 9,000 in total - currently employed by the GLC and metropolitan county councils on road and highways work.

I confidently predict (he said) that savings in this area of expenditure will be made to ensure the boroughs and districts had the resources to handle the management of roads and traffic effectively. The Bill provided for them to be supported through block grants and transport supplementary grants previously available to the upper tier authorities.

In London he proposed to take direct responsibility for about 70 per cent of the GLC's roads - 65 out of 99.5 miles. The remaining 34.5 miles

wherever councils could not agree, the people who had brought about the enormous muddle would be those who would take the final decisions.

The Government's consultation document on concessionary fares made plain that in a deregulated and privatized environment the travel card approach to concessionary fares would be much too complex to administer because there would be far too many companies involved.

It was important to make sure that all the old age pensioners who at present relied on their bus passes, and everybody needing public transport to do their shopping, take their children to school and to get to work understood just how indifferent the Government was to their needs.

Many people were beginning to understand the extent of the damage

Mr. Ridley was going to do. He should have thought of that before he allowed himself to be involved in this appalling bit of legislation. If he was really ashamed of what he was doing he should apologize and agree to remove all of this from the Bill.

The Bill was not about improving local transport or lowering the rates. It was about the power of the Secretary of State to impose on democratically elected councils his own despotic, arrogant views.

The Bill was about vindictive deeds. People would find that basic decisions were being taken not by those they had voted for but by those arbitrarily appointed by the Secretary of State.

The Bill would mean unhappiness for the old, lack of transport for the disabled, and arrogant insensitivity to the transport needs of the metropolitan counties.

Mr. Heath said many Conservative MPs were concerned not with the Opposition's many contradictions or the idiotic remarks of Mr. Ken Livingstone, but with the good government of London. There was deep anxiety.

Junior ministers in the Department of the Environment had stood on their heads over this Bill. But Mr. Jenkin said he did not matter if he was standing on his feet or his head: it makes no difference. This made it embarrassing for somebody trying to be helpful. (Laughter.)

If the case for abolition was proven, why not the Government not abolishing the county shires too? Some of these were larger, had greater populations and were more remote from people than the authorities being abolished. The case for abolition was not proven.

The Government talked about the case being justified because abolition was in the manifesto. It was put in nine days after the election was called, against the wishes of the party policy committee, and without the agreement of London MPs. The consequences were now there for all to see.

On his suggestion for an overall government of London, Mr. Heath said a London committee was not to the point. It would not be democratically elected and could be altered by governments for their own purposes.

Overall, Mr. Heath said, the case for abolition was not proven. The case for abolition was not proven.

The Government talked about the case being justified because abolition was in the manifesto. It was put in nine days after the election was called, against the wishes of the party policy committee, and without the agreement of London MPs. The consequences were now there for all to see.

On his suggestion for an overall government of London, Mr. Heath said a London committee was not to the point. It would not be democratically elected and could be altered by governments for their own purposes.

Overall, Mr. Heath said, the case for abolition was not proven. The case for abolition was not proven.

Heath: Be ready with plan for London

Abuse of benefits for mortgages

HOUSE OF LORDS

The Government is considering measures designed to stop abuse of mortgage interest repayments by striking miners. Lord Glenarthur, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said during question time in the House of Lords.

Lord Boyd-Carpenter (C) had asked why people on strike received at the cost of the taxpayer, payment of any mortgage payments which may be due from them.

Lord Glenarthur: A striker is not entitled to supplementary benefit for his own needs but he may receive benefit for his dependants and this will include, where appropriate, an amount for mortgage interest but not capital repayments.

Lord Boyd-Carpenter: Many will resent being taxed in order to enable a person who is deliberately abstaining from work to continue to purchase his house. That stands in sharp contrast with the fact that man who is working does not get such assistance.

Lord Glenarthur: I am aware there has been some publicity about some strikers not paying the mortgage and using the money for other purposes. We are carefully considering whether steps should be taken to prevent this.

Lord Stoddart of Swinton (Lab): Has he any evidence that funds for mortgage interest repayments are being used for other purposes or is he relying on hearsay evidence?

Lord Glenarthur: There certainly is evidence of various sorts that this sort of thing is going on. A rough estimate suggests 9,000 striking miners will be getting such payments with an average amount of £15 and some is going the wrong way.

Lord Harnum-Nicholls (C): The people who do this have admitted it on television in full view of millions of viewers. There is no doubt about it.

Lord Glenarthur: He is right. There can be no better evidence than that.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on Government's intention to sign draft agreement on future of Hong Kong. Lords (2.30): Debate on the Civil Service.

ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS IN MEDICAL RESEARCH YES OR NO

Would you give insulin to a diabetic child?	
Would you retain Society's hard won control over polio, diphtheria, TB and smallpox?	
Would you agree we must have medicines and vaccines which have been tested for safety?	
Would you agree we need to alleviate and control, for example, cancer, arthritis and multiple sclerosis?	
Would you agree we have to safeguard the future health of the country's population?	

Animal experimentation has made an essential contribution to the control and eradication of serious diseases. This work must continue.

THE RESEARCH DEFENCE SOCIETY

Safeguard your future

RESEARCH DEFENCE SOCIETY, GROSVENOR GARDENS HOUSE, GROSVENOR GARDENS, LONDON SW1W 0BS.

Biffen: Strike might end in farce

COAL DISPUTE

The miners' strike and the financing of it will make it quite clear that the law is indivisible. No trade union leader nor any individual can choose which part of the law he agrees with and which part he chooses to disregard.

Mr. Biffen: I am happy to confirm his point. It would be much better if the leadership of the NUM negotiated to the law and also to the negotiating table.

Mr. Peter Pike (Barnley, Lab): Accepting the Government's responsibility for the long, on-going dispute, will the Government accept responsibility for the additional cost to the Central Electricity Generating Board of generating electricity from oil during the dispute and ensure that burden is not passed on to either industrial or domestic consumers?

Mr. Biffen: I do not for one moment make his premise that the Government is responsible for this long dispute.

Bonanza for some

Two million people had had a pre-Christmas bonanza on British Telecom shares but 17 million people had each lost about £100 worth of assets, said David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, said in the Commons.

He asked Mr. John Biffen, leader of the House, to confirm his arithmetic and added: Is this not the equivalent of the Government playing bingo with other people's money?

The fact there has been such an impact upon the price in the early dealings is not unconnected with the relatively small market in shares because of the loyalty of the share holders.

But that shows that farmers of northern Europe have reaped the lion's share of the benefits. Grain, dairy produce and meat have received far greater support than the balance is gradually changing, wine fruit and vegetable.

The Community's statistics reveal the efficiency of the British farming industry. It has nearly 20 per cent of the farmed area in the EEC but 5 per cent of the holdings and just over 7 per cent of the workforce on the land.

Roughly the same area of farmland in Italy is divided into nearly half the holdings in the Community, and accounts for nearly a third of farm employment. Greece has nearly twice as many people working half as much farmland as in Britain.

Government not to interfere with ILEA

There was no possibility of government interference in the objectives of the Inner London Education Authority but simply a need to set up a new authority. ILEA was required to consult the Inner London boroughs, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, assured the Commons late on Monday.

He was speaking at the end of the first day of the second reading debate on the Local Government Bill which abolishes the Greater London Council and the six metropolitan county councils.

Mr. Giles Radice, chief Opposition spokesman on education (Durham North, Lab), said the Secretary of State had misled Londoners, the House and the country. He must explain why he had broken his promise that the Government would not interfere in ILEA's affairs.

Mr. Joseph said that ILEA would be free to decide its priorities and allocate its resources.

The Secretary of State promised an autonomous, directly-elected authority for Inner London education. The authority which would be set up by this Bill would be subject to a degree of central control unprecedented in the history of local government.

Sir Keith Joseph said there had been a constant chorus from the Opposition that the Bill was not to go forward. Either they had to go for boards appointed by ministers, which the Government had in practically every case avoided, or for indirect election, which was certainly not democratic.

The Opposition seemed to think that this was also a centralizing Bill. It was an absurd fabrication and a distortion of the truth. This was a decentralizing and democratic Bill.

To talk of some power being retained by the Government to interfere in ILEA's objectives was

totally to misunderstand the clause being quoted which was about defining the duty of the new ILEA to consult the Inner London boroughs on objectives.

In order to guide ILEA and the London boroughs on what objectives needed to be consulted about the Bill provided that the Government might define what was an objective. He hoped the Opposition would drop altogether the suggestion that there was an intent to interfere with the objectives of the new ILEA.

ILEA was extravagant. It was spending per pupil 25 per cent more than Manchester, 30 per cent more than Newcastle, 51 per cent more than Bradford, 59 per cent more than Birmingham. Those cities had much the same population as ILEA. There was plenty of scope for ILEA to economize.

Bypass route through national park

A few simple questions, he said, to a wanted to know what the select committee thought was the meaning of the effect of the National Parks Act 1949 and whether the committee thought the invasion of the National Park was in direct contradiction with the purpose for which it had been established.

If the select committee thought there was conflict between the proposed road and the purpose for which National Parks were established, they wanted the committee to decide.

Lord Spinks of Tara, a Government spokesman, said it was no part of the Government's argument where there were already intrusions into the national park one more intrusion was acceptable.

On behalf of the Government he

rejected that suggestion categorically, but it was important to remember that landscape of high value did not exist only within the national park but also in the surrounding countryside.

The Secretary of State appreciated the sincerity of the Dartmoor Preservation Association and acknowledged their deeply held view that this road should not go through any part of the national park but the planners did not have to carry responsibility for where else the road might go.

The chosen route of the bypass was supported by the local parish councils and the district council of the area concerned. They represented the people who lived there and who had achieved the objective of preserving the landscape on the floor of the House before it went before the select committee, he would withdraw his motion.

EEC food surplus: 3

British lead the field for efficiency

In the final article of this series, JOHN YOUNG, Agriculture Correspondent, examines British and EEC food surpluses in an international context, and difficulties raised by the accession of Spain and Portugal.

The widely held British view of the EEC, and the Common Agricultural Policy in particular, is that it is a device for making British taxpayers to support peasant farmers. But expenditure is considerably less outrageous than portrayed and is open to other interpretations.

The Community's statistics reveal the efficiency of the British farming industry. It has nearly 20 per cent of the farmed area in the EEC but 5 per cent of the holdings and just over 7 per cent of the workforce on the land.

Roughly the same area of farmland in Italy is divided into nearly half the holdings in the Community, and accounts for nearly a third of farm employment. Greece has nearly twice as many people working half as much farmland as in Britain.

But that shows that farmers of northern Europe have reaped the lion's share of the benefits. Grain, dairy produce and meat have received far greater support than the balance is gradually changing, wine fruit and vegetable.

The Community's statistics reveal the efficiency of the British farming industry. It has nearly 20 per cent of the farmed area in the EEC but 5 per cent of the holdings and just over 7 per cent of the workforce on the land.

Roughly the same area of farmland in Italy is divided into nearly half the holdings in the Community, and accounts for nearly a third of farm employment. Greece has nearly twice as many people working half as much farmland as in Britain.

livestock farmers will face ruin.

British fruit and vegetable growers have good reason to fear enlargement. Tomatoes grown in expensive-heated glasshouses in Sussex and Hampshire can hardly compete with those produced in Canary Islands sunshine.

The view in Brussels, for which the Government can take some credit, is that expenditure must be contained and that, while there are strong strategic, balance of payments and social reasons for supporting domestic agriculture, Europe has a surplus of productive land. More attention should be paid to alternative uses.

Ask people in Brussels why they emphasize the need for structural reform, and the answer is that, only when farming has become efficient in its own right, can support be progressively withdrawn and the market allowed to take command.

Concluded

Claims police injuries top £1

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs

Police officers' claims for compensation for injuries sustained in the line of duty have topped £1 million for the first time, according to a report by the Home Office.

The report, which covers the period from 1983 to 1984, shows that the total cost of claims for police officers' injuries was £1,010,000.

The highest cost claim was for a police officer who was injured while trying to arrest a suspect. The claim was for £100,000.

The report also shows that the cost of claims for police officers' injuries has increased by 10 per cent since 1982.

The Home Office is considering ways of reducing the cost of claims for police officers' injuries.

Pop pirates

By David

London

pirates

top

£1

million

for the first time

according to a report by the Home Office

The report, which covers the period from 1983 to 1984, shows that the total cost of claims for police officers' injuries was £1,010,000.

The highest cost claim was for a police officer who was injured while trying to arrest a suspect. The claim was for £100,000.

The report also shows that the cost of claims for police officers' injuries has increased by 10 per cent since 1982.

The Home Office is considering ways of reducing the cost of claims for police officers' injuries.

The Goons and return for Ch

By David

London

pirates

top

£1

million

for the first time

according to a report by the Home Office

The report, which covers the period from 1983 to 1984, shows that the total cost of claims for police officers' injuries was £1,010,000.

The highest cost claim was for a police officer who was injured while trying to arrest a suspect. The claim was for £100,000.

The report also shows that the cost of claims for police officers' injuries has increased by 10 per cent since 1982.

The Home Office is considering ways of reducing the cost of claims for police officers' injuries.

New Mercedes to use lead-free

By Clifford Webb, Motoring

Mercedes-Benz has announced that its new 190 series cars will be the first to use lead-free petrol.

The company says that the new cars will be able to run on 90 per cent lead-free petrol without any loss of power or performance.

The new cars will be available in the UK from next year.

Claims by pit police for injuries could top £1.5m

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Compensation to police injured during the miners' dispute could total more than £1.5 million if all apply, the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board said yesterday. More than 1,200 officers have been hurt during the strike and the board is expecting an increase in applications from injured police as a result.

During the year ending March 31, 1,017 awards were made to officers injured on duty, compared with 1,494 in 1982-83.

The board disclosed in its annual report an award made to "that the child and its mother as a result of injury to them before it was born."

The mother, a nursing sister, was punched in the stomach by a patient while she was accompanying in hospital grounds while she was pregnant. Preliminary medical reports showed a possible link between the blow and contractions rings on the baby's arm.

After inquiries with hospitals and specialists it was concluded "that the child's abnormality is attributable to a crime of violence in respect of which he is entitled to compensation". Interim awards of £1,000 were made to the mother and to the child.

There has been an increase in cases involving glue sniffing which has joined drink as a significant factor in triggering violence which often leads to a serious injury.

In one case an applicant aged 18 suffered head injuries after sniffing glue and getting involved in a fight. His application was rejected.

In another glue sniffing case a girl was victim of "a series of disgusting and lewd sexual acts", but was so stupefied her resistance was minimal. She was awarded £750 compensation reduced from £1,000 because she and the three youths involved had been glue sniffing.

During the year there were three bomb incidents as a result of which applications have been received: Woolwich, December 10, 1983, four from soldiers; Harrods, December 17, 1983, 36 from civilians; Berkeley Square, March 10, 1984, 10 from civilians.

The highest award by the board during the year was £123,250 paid to a man who was attacked while celebrating his 50th birthday at a working men's club. He had a broken jaw and serious bruising to his head, chest, abdomen and legs. His legs had to be amputated above the knee. He is disabled and being looked after by his wife.

Altogether the board paid out a record £32,821,000 during the financial year, which was 11.5 per cent up on the previous year. A total of 31,939 applications were received, an increase of 8.5 per cent over 1982-83.

Criminal injuries: compensation Board 20th Report, Cmd. 9399 (Stationery Office, £4.50).

Doctors to oppose NHS drug curbs

By Nicholas Timmins

The Royal College of General Practitioners is to oppose the Government's plan to impose a limited list of drugs on the National Health Service.

The college, which in the past has often supported Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, for example over his proposals to tighten up on doctors' use of deputizing services, believed that the move would mean "a second-class NHS service for patients who could not afford to pay". Dr Bill Styles, secretary of the college, said.

Under the Government's proposals, patients would be limited to certain non-branded preparations for home cures, pain relief, tranquilizers and sedation. Those wanting other products would have to pay for them over the counter or obtain a private prescription.

"We are not certain that the general public realizes just how much the NHS is going to be undermined by this", Dr Styles said.

Doctors would be limited to prescribing aspirin and paracetamol for mild to moderate pain. People with early stages of cancer pain would be faced with either aspirin or powerful opiate drugs, with mild-strength painkillers excluded.

Dr Styles said that family doctors were not opposed to locally agreed limited lists, which some practices already operated. But those had more flexibility than the Government's proposals, because if a doctor felt that a patient needed a particular drug he could appeal to his colleagues and made a case for prescribing it.

Revolt in New Caledonia

Special envoy begins crisis talks

From Our Special Correspondent

Noumea, New Caledonia

M. Edgard Pisani, the special envoy appointed by the French Government, who has been given two months to bring peace to the territory of New Caledonia, arrived in the South Pacific island from Paris yesterday and immediately began talks with local elected leaders.

M. Pisani, the outgoing EEC Commissioner for development aid policy gave no indication of how he would set about his task, pleading a newcomer's ignorance of the situation in France's most far-flung colonial outpost.

M. Yves Magnier, vice-president of New Caledonia's recently-elected Territorial assembly, who had talks with M. Pisani within hours of his arrival, told *The Times* afterwards that M. Pisani had agreed that his first priority was to restore law and order, before he would consider negotiating with the Kanak separatist movement.

M. Jean-Marie Tjibaou, who has proclaimed himself president of a provisional government, has said he is willing to negotiate with M. Pisani, but the legal government of the territory is resisting his participation.

M. Dick Ukeiwe, president of the New Caledonia assembly, whose pro-French *Rassemblement pour la Calédonie dans la République* is associated with M. Jacques Chirac's Gaullists, is expected back on the island today after talks in Paris with M. Laurent Fabius, the French Prime Minister.

The Kanak separatists, who claim to represent the indigenous Melanesians, who have been outnumbered by French settlers and other immigrants, are still manning road-blocks in rural parts of the island. Anti-independence French settlers have retaliated by setting up several blocks of their own.

Early yesterday two holiday homes were set on fire, but no one was hurt. Since the troubles began, two local people have been killed, and at least a dozen have been wounded, including three French gendarmes.

M. Magnier said 17 members of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation group had recently visited Libya for terrorist training.

He also said that the 1,400 French gendarmes on the island, including 350 members of the elite anti-terrorist squad, were being restrained from full-scale action to put down the revolt on the express orders of the Government in Paris, which, he claimed, would be quite happy to see New Caledonia cut adrift from metropolitan France.

● PARIS: M. Fabius called yesterday for a "political truce over the extraordinarily difficult and complex problem of



Law of the gun Kanak separatists guarding the entrance of This village northern New Caledonia.

Hawke style bears brunt of surprise poll failure

From Tony Dubodoin Melbourne

Last weekend's federal election proved that Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister of Australia, was fallible and could not, as many believed, walk on water.

The Hawke style, a week ago called charisma, is now being described as arrogance by many commentators and his detractors within the Labour Party who have emerged since the disappointing result for the Government.

Mr Hawke now faces the prospect of a resurgent left wing which will point to the poll losses as proof that the party has drifted away from its base and should have maintained its anti-uranium and anti-nuclear stance. Similarly, the right wing will be urging a move further to the right.

To compound the Prime Minister's problems, Mr Bill Hayden, the Foreign Minister and the man Mr Hawke displaced as party leader, is again showing signs of ambition, and a distinctly mischievous inclination. It is clear that Mr Hayden, while appearing to be a loyal Hawke supporter, has not forgotten the way he was treated when the party threw him aside in favour of a dose of Hawke charisma.

The centre-left faction, which Mr Hayden leads, met in Melbourne yesterday and made clear that he would not stand as deputy leader against Mr Lionel Bowen, a suggestion earlier not discouraged by the Foreign Minister.

Mr Hawke said yesterday he would "certainly" back Mr Bowen for the deputy post - effectively ruling out Mr Hayden's chances.

Senator John Button, leader of the Senate, a key figure in the centre-left faction, who was instrumental in Mr Hawke's election as party leader, has criticized both the length of the campaign and its style.

Australian outlook, page 8

Pop pirates claim 5m audience

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Britain's newest pirate radio station, Laser 558, claimed a national audience of nearly five million last night, and predicted that its North Sea pop music service would be making money next year.

But Laser's American sales office, based in New York, refused to disclose the identities of the US backers who have put up £1.5 million to fund the station through a Panamanian company.

Mr Roy Lindsay, president of Music Media International, which sells advertising on behalf of the station, based in a converted cargo ship about 20 miles off the Essex coast, said yesterday: "There are rumours that we are backed by the CIA, the IRA, or some weird religious cult. None of it is true. Laser's backers are just ordinary investors."

Mr Lindsay's claims were based on an independent audience survey of 2,000 listeners carried out by the London company Media Research and Information Bureau.

Mr Lake Crampton, director of the research company, said last night that he was surprised by the new pirate station's popularity which can be heard in most parts of the country.

Laser broadcasts 18 hours a day from its ship, the *MV Commodore*, most of it non-stop pop. The station boasts that music is never more than a minute away, and broadcasts little in the way of chat, news, and until recently, advertisements. It went on air in May and deliberately carried no commercials until October, according to Mr John Moss, its sales director. But advertisers now include US travel agencies, *Rolling Stone* magazine, the newspaper *USA Today*, and the film companies MGM and United Artists.

Any British-based company using the station could be prosecuted under the Marine Broadcasting Offences Act, but Laser believes that it will break even next year from pan-European advertising sales paid for by multinational companies.

Mr Moss said that the station would not be carrying more than six minutes' advertising an hour, broken up into one minute sections. The station had a proven audience reaching all of Britain except the north of Scotland, Ulster, and the Border region. It was also received in Norway, Sweden, Belgium, Holland, and along the French coast.

He added: "Since we have a low chat format, language becomes a low consideration for us. The American charts are universally popular, whether it is in Japan or France. If the advertisers who have promised to come on board do so, we could be in a first-class situation rather than a last-class one."

The Goons and Glums return for Christmas

The Goons and The Glums will return to head the line-up of light entertainment on BBC radio at Christmas, together with current popular comedy series such as *The Grumbleweeds*, the BBC announced yesterday.

The Goons, favourites of the Prince of Wales, can be heard again on Boxing Day in the *International Christmas Pudding*, a festive edition first broadcast in 1955.

Christmas with The Glums, played by Jimmy Edwards, Dick Bentley and June Whitfield, will feature in a repeat of *Take It from Here*. Other old series being repeated are *Round the Horne* with Kenneth Horne and his team in a Christmas edition, and the first series of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, going out each day during Christmas week.

BBC radio is aiming to bring back the old favourites and give a new generation the chance to hear some vintage comedy.

Bob Monkhouse will be returning to the BBC Playhouse Theatre in Manchester, where he made one of the first broadcasts 33 years ago for a show on Christmas Eve.

Other highlights include Frank Muir and Denis Norden with special editions of *My Music*, and Ray Allen as host on *The Impressionists* with Peter Goodwright, Johnny More and other impersonators.

Man wins £160,200 damages

Mr Richard Chalcraft who was left with permanent irreversible brain damage after an accident during a hip replacement operation was awarded £160,200 damages in the High Court yesterday.

He went to Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, in March, 1980, but during the operation he was accidentally starved of oxygen and suffered the brain damage.

Mr Chalcraft, aged 47, of Godalming, Surrey, has two children.

Damages were awarded against the Surrey South West Health Authority, which denied liability.

Two accused of London murders

A second man has been accused of the London murders of two men in 1982. William Ross will appear before Bow Street magistrates court with a former member of the Foreign Legion today, when both will face committal proceedings.

Ross, who was served with summonses 5 weeks ago, was due to appear in court yesterday accused of the murders of Mr Angus Cochrane, a Doncaster coal board solicitor, and Mr Greville Hallam, a theatrical agent, but his solicitor agreed to a remand in custody until today.

Sellafield case set

British Nuclear Fuels will be prosecuted for alleged offences under the Radioactive Substances Act, 1960 and the Nuclear Installations Act, 1965 at Carlisle Crown Court on June 5.

The case comes after the radioactive contamination of a 30-mile stretch of beach beside the Sellafield reprocessing plant in west Cumbria a year ago.

Rescue service

An insurance company is launching a vehicle assistance service which it claims will provide a challenge to the AA and RAC.

Avon Insurance, which plans to begin Avon RoadRescue in the new year, will initially offer it to Avon motoring policy holders.

New Mercedes equipped to use lead-free petrol

By Clifford Webb Motoring Correspondent

Mercedes-Benz's latest car will go on sale next spring fitted with anti-pollution equipment that uses lead-free petrol. The decision puts the company at least three years ahead of proposed Common Market regulations that will require the change.

British, French, and Italian car manufacturers see this as another West German concession to the Save Our Forests campaign organized by the country's Green Party despite the apparent lack of evidence identifying car exhaust emission as the cause of acid rain.

These companies do not want to be forced into fitting expensive catalytic converters similar to those in use in the US when it is thought that further research could lead to cheaper and more reliable alternatives.

However, Mercedes sees the replacement of its big selling two to three litre mid-range saloons as the ideal opportunity to make the change. Code named W124, the new range comprises seven models.

The 2.2 litre 230E will be available with the option of a catalytic converter when it goes on sale in Europe next spring and the entire range will be converted during 1985.

For the time being motorists will be able to choose between a car equipped with the converters or one that can be converted at a later date.

Mercedes is putting pressure on the oil industry to step up production of premium grade lead-free petrol for its high compression engine. In the meantime the new models will be capable of running on either premium or regular lead-free petrol with the aid of newly developed multi-functional mixture and ignition control.

The West German Government is trying to encourage the change with tax concessions of up to £850 to motorists who buy catalytic equipped cars.

The new mid-series Mercedes will not be on sale in Britain until next October. They are more wedge shaped, lighter, faster, and offer up to 25 per cent better fuel economy than existing models.

THE ACCOUNT THAT EARNS YOU A GUARANTEED 6% PA. TAX-FREE.

During 1985 the National Savings Ordinary Account is offering a guaranteed interest rate of 6% p.a. on balances maintained at £500 or more. Whatever happens to other interest rates, this one will not change in the coming year.

The first £70 a year of interest is free of all UK Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax.

For example, if you deposit £1,167 before the end of December 1984 and keep it in for the whole of 1985, you will earn the full tax-free benefit of £70. Husbands and wives are each entitled to this amount of tax exemption.

You get a guaranteed rate of interest and ready access to your money. To earn the guaranteed rate of 6% keep at least £500 invested from 31 December 1984 to 1 January 1986. Additional deposits will also earn the 6% rate for each whole month of 1985 that the money is earning interest. (Balances of less than £500 will earn 3%.)

Act by 31 December. To qualify for this attractive 1985 opportunity, invest before the end of December 1984. You can open a National Savings Ordinary Account by sending the coupon, which must arrive by 31 December, with your cheque made payable to "National Savings" and crossed "A/c Payee" to: National Savings Bank, Glasgow G58 1SB. First class post recommended. Or you can make your deposit at the post office. In this case, if you pay by cheque make it out to "The Post Office."



To: National Savings Bank (Dept. DD1), Glasgow G58 1SB. T1
I wish to open an NSB Ordinary Account

SURNAME: MR/MRS/MISS

FORENAME: (initials)

DATE OF BIRTH: DATE MONTH YEAR
(Essential for children under 7 years)

ADDRESS:
(including post code)

AMOUNT DEPOSITED: POUNDS PENCE

I declare that the information given by me on this form is correct.

USUAL SIGNATURE:
(If child under 7, signature of person opening account)
(If you hold any other NSB Account(s), please quote account number(s):)

Hard line in Brussels: softer talk in Moscow

Nato to spend billions on boosting capability of fighting a prolonged war

From Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent, Brussels

Nato defence ministers agreed yesterday a multi-billion pound increase in its spending on ammunition, airfields and other facilities to improve its ability to fight a prolonged war. A meeting of Nato's Defence Planning Committee in Brussels adopted a programme to spend \$7.8 billion (£6.6 billion) over a six-year period on modernizing communication systems, pipelines, airfields and other installations.

In addition ministers agreed that they would make a determined effort to build up stocks of ammunition and other war-fighting supplies. The object is to get as close as possible to the target of holding 30 days of war-fighting stocks. That was first set 30 years ago, but never yet achieved.

Mr Richard Perle, a US Assistant Secretary for Defence, said that of 16 meetings of Nato defence ministers which he had attended, yesterday's was one of the most satisfying and successful. The infrastructure spending programme was more than twice as large as that for the previous six years.

The ministers' decision has to be seen largely as a direct response to American criticisms that European members were not contributing sufficiently to Nato.

In particular, there is concern in Europe at the actions of Senator Sam Nunn, who last

spring tried to persuade the US Senate to adopt a motion under the chairmanship of Mr Michael Heseltine, the British Secretary of State for Defence, pointed out that next year the European nations in Nato would bring into service 280 combat aircraft and 740 main battle tanks and well over 600 other armoured vehicles, and 140 pieces of artillery.

Mr Heseltine said the European contribution to the alliance was "very very substantial". Nevertheless, he thought there were things which should be done in Europe which should have been done already. Senator Nunn had played a role in focusing attention on those matters.

One object of the increased spending will be to improve Europe's facilities for receiving reinforcements of US ground and air forces in the event of a European war. That will include the construction of several hundred aircraft hangars specially "hardened" to resist bomb attacks.

● EAST BERLIN: The Warsaw Pact too yesterday, called for serious negotiations with the West to reduce nuclear arms, but said such talks should have clearly defined goals (Reuter reports).

A communiqué issued by the official ADN news agency after a meeting of the seven Warsaw Pact foreign ministers in East Berlin said the "chance of a change for the better in the international situation now exists".

It added: "What is needed is a change to a policy of realism and businesslike co-operation in solving problems facing the nations of Europe... negotiations which pursue positive results with a sense of high responsibility."

"The Warsaw Pact believes that from the very beginning there should be a clear definition of the goals and talks should cover the full complex of arms issues, including medium-range rockets now based in Europe."

They repeated the Warsaw Pact countries do not seek superiority but at the same time, they will not allow themselves to fall into a situation of inferiority," the communiqué said.

"The pact ministers propose a quantitative and qualitative freeze in nuclear arms. They expect an answer from the Nato countries to this proposal."



In the news: Le Monde journalists reading their paper before they reject the editor's recovery plan.

Editor of Le Monde calls it a day

From Diana Geddes, Paris

M André Laurens resigned as editor-in-chief of *Le Monde* yesterday after journalists rejected the basis of his plan for the economic recovery of the troubled newspaper.

M Laurens, who celebrates his 50th birthday on Friday, was elected as a compromise candidate by an overwhelming majority of the editorial staff in May 1982. His appointment came after two years of bitter in-fighting and deep divisions

caused by the search for a suitable successor to M Jacques Fauvet.

He is only the third editor since the foundation of the paper 40 years ago by M Hubert Beuve-Méry. He said he intended to remain in the post until December 20, when a meeting of shareholders of *Le Monde* will be convened to choose his successor.

Le Monde is a private company, 40 per cent of the

shares are owned by the journalists, 5 per cent by the management, 5 per cent by other employees, 10 per cent by the editor-in-chief and 40 per cent by 15 outside private individuals, including the paper, once highly successful, has been making substantial losses over the past three years. They are expected to exceed 80 million francs (£7 million) by the end of this year.

In October, M Laurens put forward his plan for the economic recovery of the paper, which included the sale of its offices near the Opéra.

Last week, non-journalist staff went on strike for two days in protest against proposals to cut their salaries by an average of 14 per cent.

On Monday night, the 185 journalists voted to reject the proposal to sell *Le Monde* offices, and criticized the rest of M Laurens's plan.

forward his plan for the economic recovery of the paper, which included the sale of its offices near the Opéra.

Last week, non-journalist staff went on strike for two days in protest against proposals to cut their salaries by an average of 14 per cent.

On Monday night, the 185 journalists voted to reject the proposal to sell *Le Monde* offices, and criticized the rest of M Laurens's plan.

Ferraro gets reprimand over family finances

Washington - The House Ethics Committee decided that Ma Camille Ferraro, the defeated Democratic vice-presidential candidate, violated the Ethics in Government Act at least 10 times by failing to disclose fully her personal and family finances (Nicholas Ashford writes).

But it is not recommending any disciplinary action against her and the decision is seen as a technical reprimand. Ms Ferraro, a three-term Congresswoman, will cease to be a member of the House when Congress convenes on January 3.

'Tip' O'Neill re-elected

Washington - Congressional Democrats elected Mr Thomas "Tip" O'Neill of Massachusetts as House Speaker for a fifth and final term. Mr O'Neill, who will be 72 next weekend, plans to retire in two years (Nicholas Ashford writes).

Mr Robert Michel of Illinois was again chosen by House Republicans as their leader.

Estate seized

Granada, (Reuter) - Almost 1,000 Spanish small farmers staged a symbolic takeover of a sprawling estate here belonging to the Duke of Wellington. "Estate such as this should be expropriated and handed over to the workers," a spokesman said.

Tourists killed

Nairobi (AP) - Nine people, including six American tourists, were killed when a van in which they were travelling to a game park collided with a lorry just south-east of here. Names were not released.

Sheep sharing

Sheep bred in the Yorkshire dales have been put on show at a leading Tokyo department store and are boosting sales of British wool. Mostly Wensleydales and Swaledales, they are living happily on the store's roof and have become favourites on children's television shows.

Beaten to death

Rio de Janeiro (Reuter) - About 500 Brazilians dragged five convicted criminals from a police van at Iguatema, north of here, and beat them to death with clubs and stones. They had been convicted of killing a policeman during an armed robbery.

Free on bail

Geneva (Reuter) - Elvio Lombardi, an Italian extradited from Uruguay and charged in a Swiss court with helping a Sicilian masonic lodge, Licio Gelli, to escape from a Geneva jail, has been released on bail of about £16,500.

Air chief dies

Moscow (AP) - Marshal Pavel Kutakhov, aged 70, head of the Soviet Air Force since 1969, died on Monday after an unspecified "severe and prolonged illness," Tass said yesterday.

Judges to go

The Hague (Reuter) - Iran will replace in January two of its judges who assaulted a fellow Swedish judge at a tribunal settling claims between Iran and the United States.

TV punch-up

Hilversum (AP) - A talk show on Dutch television was abruptly taken off the air after a brawl broke out between opponents and supporters of the present military regime in the former Dutch colony of Surinam. Three people were hurt in the punch-up.

Jordanian shot dead in Bucharest

Vienna, (Reuter) - A senior Jordanian diplomat was killed in central Bucharest yesterday by a gunman, who was immediately arrested, his embassy said.

The gunman shot Mr Azmi Al-Mufti, Jordan's second-ranking diplomat in Romania, several times with a pistol as the diplomat left the hotel where he had been living for the past three months, witnesses reported.

In Amman, the Jordanian Prime Minister, Mr Ahmed Obaidat, said Mr Al-Mufti was taking his child to school when he was killed by "a wicked hand".

Romanian police seized the gunman whose identity and nationality were not immediately known.

A Jordanian Embassy spokesman, reached by telephone from Belgrade, could offer no possible motive for the attack.

The assassination was unusual for Romania where the orthodox Communist authorities impose the closest watch on foreigners.

The Hotel Bucuresti, where Mr Al-Mufti was staying, is frequented by visiting foreign businessmen and diplomats.

Although the motive behind the killing was not clear, there has been a string of attacks abroad on Jordanian embassy employees in the past two years.

Pretoria relents on visa for Jackson

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Rev Jesse Jackson, the black civil rights leader and outspoken opponent of apartheid, has been given a visa to visit South Africa. A date for his visit has yet to be fixed but it is expected to take place early in the new year.

It will be Mr Jackson's second visit to South Africa. He spent 17 days in the Republic in 1979. He submitted an application earlier this year when he was seeking the Democratic presidential nomination, but it was rejected.

There is speculation that Mr Jackson may use his visit to seek the release of 13 black labour leaders detained last month. In January he negotiated the release of an American

can airman from Syria and later in the year he brought back American and Cuban prisoners with him after a visit to Havana.

The granting of his visa has come as demonstrators stepped up their protests against South Africa's racial policies and the Reagan Administration's policy of "constructive engagement".

Three more protesters were arrested outside the South African embassy in Washington on Monday, bringing to 19 the number who have been detained there since the demonstrations began on November 21. Four people were arrested at a similar protest outside the South African consulate in New York.

Greek plot claim scorned

From Mario Modiano, Athens

The office of Mr Constantine Karamanlis, the Greek President, yesterday rejected as "ridiculous and suspicious" allegations in an article by Professor Nicos Devletoglu in *The Times* yesterday.

Professor Devletoglu, Professor of Political Economy at the University of Athens until 1975 and a co-founder of the National Union Party, claimed that the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974 had been engineered at a secret meeting between Mr Karamanlis, then in exile in Paris, and Mr Bulent

Ecevit, the Turkish Prime Minister, to topple the Greek military dictatorship.

The statement from the President's office "not only denies these assertions, but rejects that Mr Karamanlis ever met Mr Ecevit before the Turkish invasion of Cyprus."

Sources close to the Greek President are surprised at such allegations just as the Cyprus question appears to be entering a delicate phase. President Kyprianou, of Cyprus, is to visit Athens for discussions with President Karamanlis.

Rabbi in row over girl troops

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

Rabbi Shimon Shlomo, a bearded, black-clad deputy representing the ultra-orthodox Torah Guardians in Parliament, explained yesterday that he had not meant to say the licentious conduct of women in the Israeli armed forces was responsible for the heavy casualties suffered in Lebanon. What he meant was that their mere presence in the Army had caused the losses.

The rabbi offered his explanation on Israel Radio after he had been criticized by colleagues in the parliamentary foreign affairs and security committee for a statement in a newspaper interview. He said he had not meant to offend anyone but only to make a statement of fact.

He said the rabbinical sages he opposed female military service, for it is written: "For the Lord thy God walketh in the midst of thy camp to deliver thee... therefore shall thy camp be holy; that He sees no unseemly thing in thee and turn away from thee" (Deuteronomy 23:14).

The rabbi said women's military service was unseemly and the Almighty had turned away, withdrawing his protection.

● ENTRY CHECK: Ethiopian Jews emigrating to Israel will be examined to see if they have been properly circumcised under ritual Jewish law, a spokesman for the Israeli Rabbinate said (Reuter reports).

Marcos back on TV after 3-week break

Manila (AFP) - President Marcos was shown yesterday on government television for the first time since his disappearance three weeks ago from public view.

Mr Marcos appeared dressed in a shirt and dark trousers, walking slowly across a large room.

Meanwhile, a military court yesterday sentenced to death three men and a woman for being involved in an alleged plot to assassinate President Marcos and members of his Cabinet five years ago.



Lookalike: This drawing of the Soviet prototype space shuttle and its carrier, the Bison bomber, strongly resembles its US predecessor. It appeared in *Aviation Week and Space Technology* magazine, which says landing tests will begin soon.

Tamils try to trade hostages for rebels

Colombo (Reuter) - A Tamil separatist group is holding nine hostages to back its demands that the Sri Lanka Government should release three guerrillas and pay a ransom of almost \$400,000 (£333,000), the National Security Minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, said yesterday.

He said a note to that effect was given to a government agent in Jaffna by the Tamil Eelam Liberation Army, which he described as Marxist.

The Government thought the hostages were captured when guerrillas attacked a train on Monday, and that most of them were Sinhalese, he added.

A second note said the ransom money should be handed to Mr Murguesu Sivasingham, president of the Tamil United Liberation Front and its secretary general, Mr Appapillai Amirthalingam. But the Liberation Front later dissociated itself from the ransom note.

Colonel linked to priest's murder

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

A senior officer, Colonel Adam Pietruszka, will be accused of instigating the crime during talks held with the other policemen.

Mr Urban said the authorities would continue to investigate links between the alleged murderers and other sympathizers who may have contributed to the crime - but such evidence would probably not be ready before the beginning of the trial.

He denied that a car crash which killed two high-ranking police investigators last Friday was anything more than an "ordinary accident". The investigators, who included a colonel

and a major, had been investigating "peripheral" aspects of the backgrounds of the accused and their material, which was swiftly rescued from the wreckage, was not crucial to the case.

The robbery and torture of two priests in the Lublin area had no connections with the Pietruszka affair and "had no political aspects at all," he said. It was an unfortunate fact, that church buildings in isolated country parishes were often the target of break-ins by thieves seeking valuables. There was no reason why priests should feel they are living in an atmosphere of fear," Mr Urban said.

UN makes an African aid breakthrough

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

A declaration drawing up a blueprint of change for Africa has been adopted by the United Nations in a culmination of what Britain one of the continent's leading aid builders, has described as the most important debate during the present session of the General Assembly.

The British representatives, Sir John Thomson, said that the document, which outlines guidelines for large emergency relief aid and longer term remedies, would become a milestone in African relations with the Western world and the UN's ability to depart from abstract platitudes towards a more practical approach.

The consensus reached in the assembly confirmed the growing political isolation of the Soviet Union in relation to Africa. Despite Moscow's proddings that colonialism should be blamed for the continent's tragedy the Soviet Union was

Kabul palace hit in rebel rocket attack

Islamabad (Reuter) - Rockets fired by Afghan rebels hit the presidential palace compound in the heart of Kabul, but no one was killed, said Western diplomats said here yesterday.

One rocket landed on or around the walled palace on November 26, and witnesses said they heard cries and saw two ambulances arriving.

Several more rockets were fired at the Intercontinental Hotel, where 80 delegates from 41 countries were attending an Afro-Asian Peace and Solidarity Organization conference, but they missed the target.

The diplomats said two more rockets landed in an Afghan Army compound near the West German cultural centre.

Muslim guerrillas, armed with what rebel sources say are 107mm Chinese-made rockets, have been making surprise attacks on Kabul targets since late summer.

Top journalist released in Nigeria

By Kenneth Mackenzie

The editor of a leading Nigerian newspaper, *The National Concord*, has been released after being detained for 14 days for questioning about an article that criticized the Minister of Information.

An official statement said that the editor, Mr Duro Onabule, had been a "guest" at the headquarters of the Nigerian Security Organization in Lagos. Mr Onabule had suggested that the Minister, Group Captain Emetka Omeruah, was obsessed with an anti-press prejudice.

Colonel linked to priest's murder

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

A senior officer, Colonel Adam Pietruszka, will be accused of instigating the crime during talks held with the other policemen.

Mr Urban said the authorities would continue to investigate links between the alleged murderers and other sympathizers who may have contributed to the crime - but such evidence would probably not be ready before the beginning of the trial.

He denied that a car crash which killed two high-ranking police investigators last Friday was anything more than an "ordinary accident". The investigators, who included a colonel



All for the sake of a fur coat.

Each year tens of millions of animals are killed for their fur. Some are trapped and suffer a slow, painful death. Others are bred just to be slaughtered.

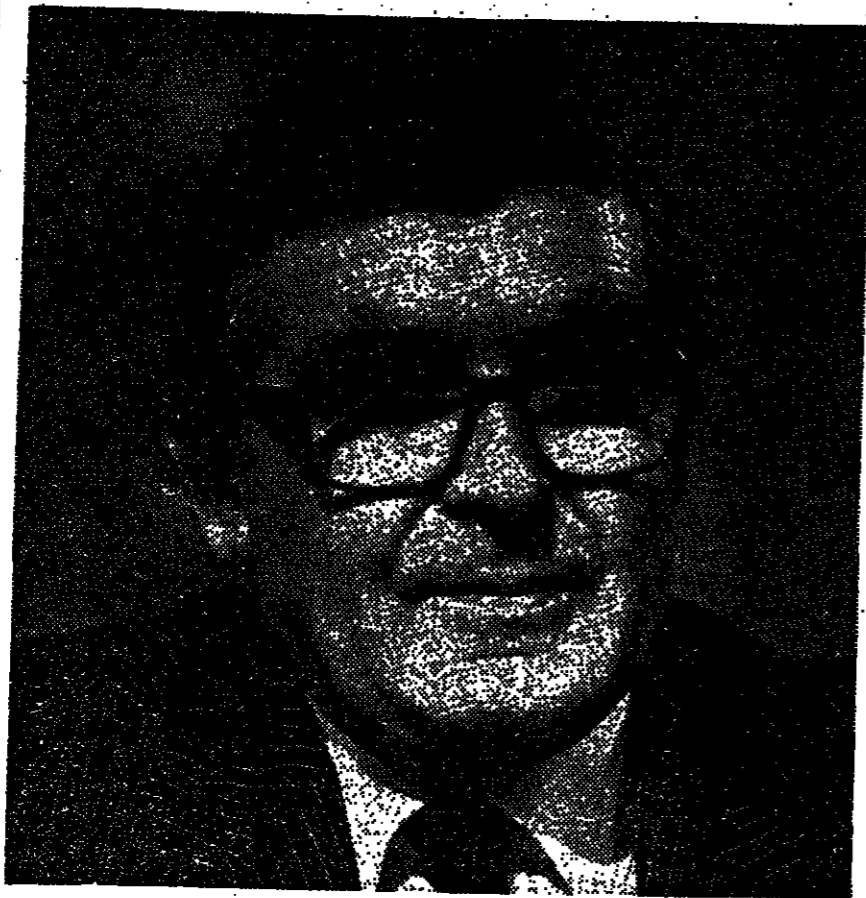
The RSPCA is campaigning now against the fur trade. By pressuring the fur, we can help reduce demand for fur, ending the cruel action that they

I enclose a donation of £
(No new funds, receipts are only sent on request.)
Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Send coupon with your donation to: Executive Director, RSPCA, Courtyard, Harrogate, West Yorkshire HG2 1HG.

W
DEMO
HEAD
HEAD O
HEAD OF V
In the Abolition
he's appointing to
Himself.
It gives him di
and joint boards w
functions.
A free hand to
else likes it or not.
And that's not

ADVERTISEMENT

WHO PATRICK JENKIN PLANS TO PUT IN THE PLACE OF LONDON'S DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED COUNCILLORS.



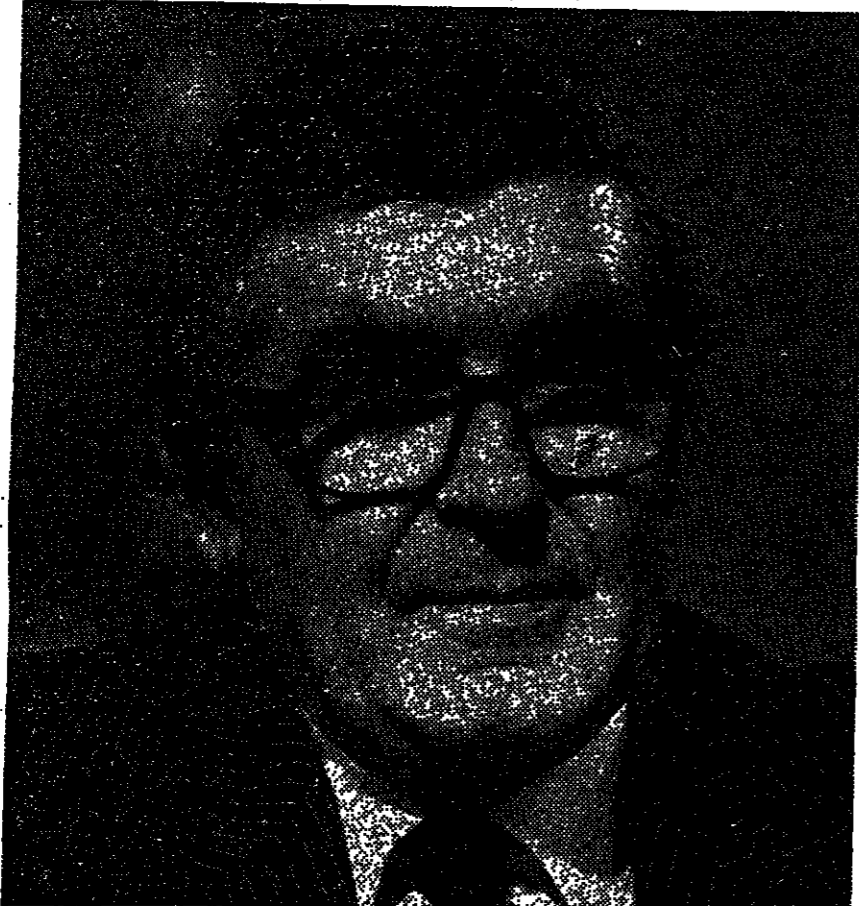
HEAD OF EDUCATION.



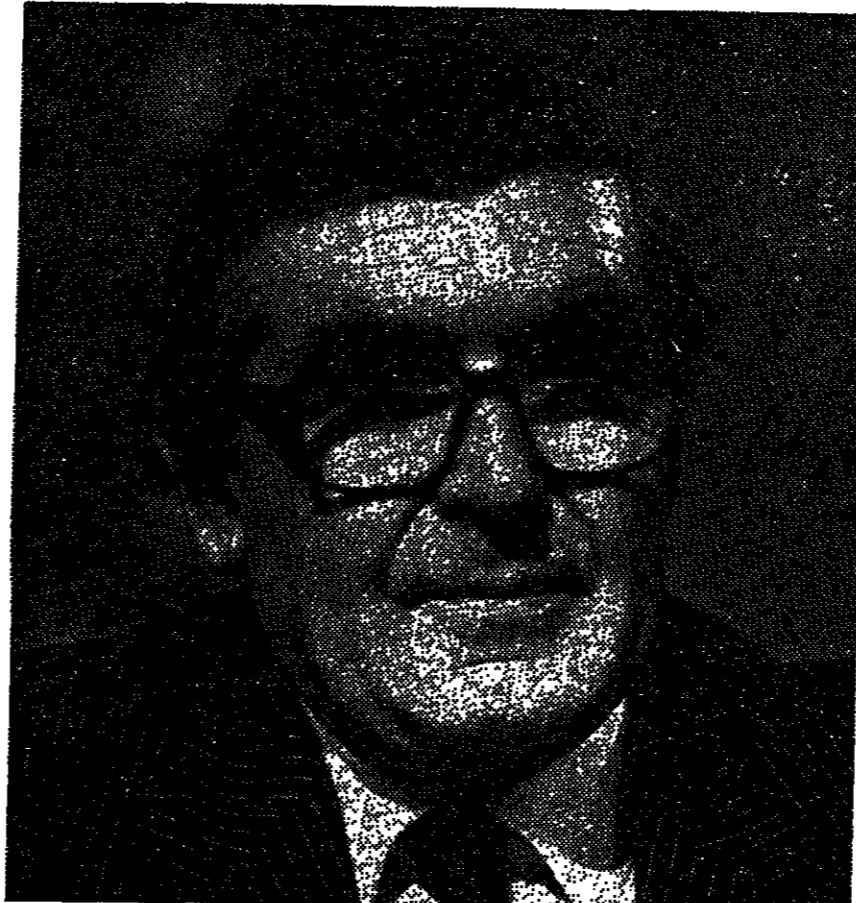
HEAD OF PLANNING.



HEAD OF TRAFFIC CONTROL.



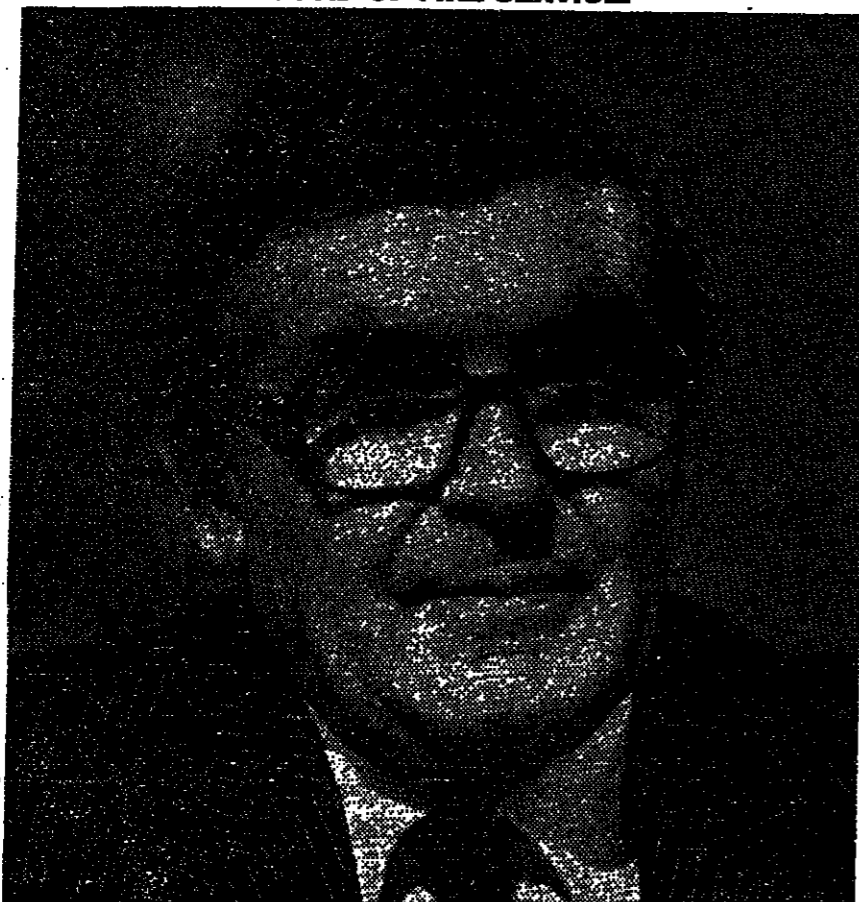
HEAD OF FIRE SERVICE.



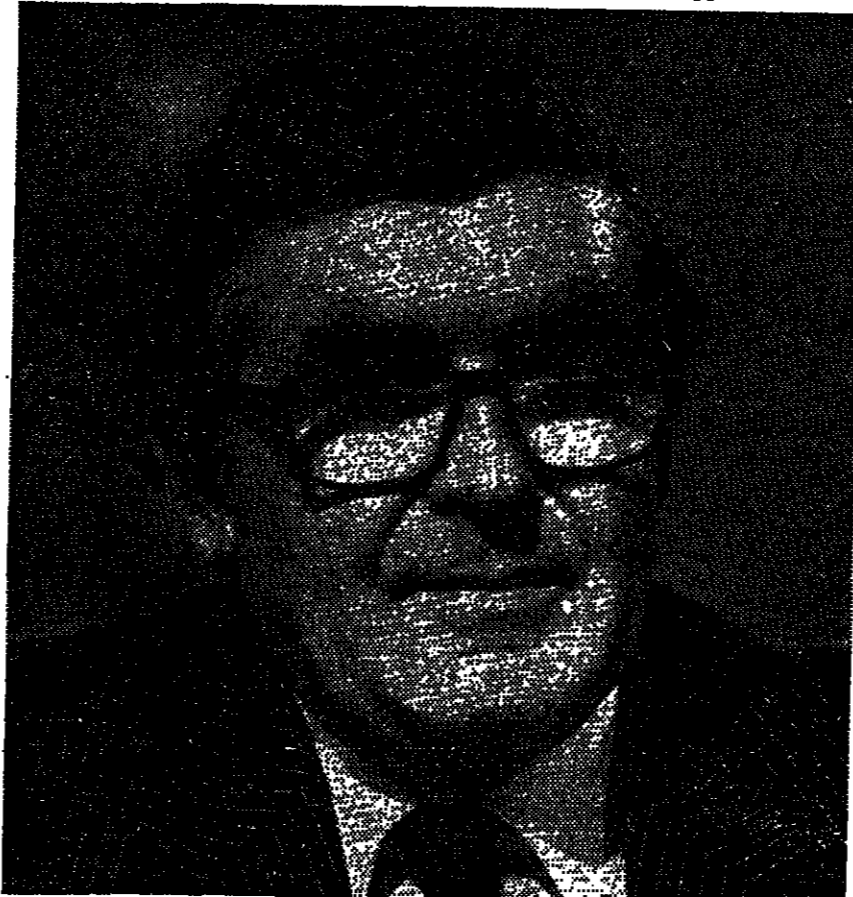
HEAD OF HOUSING IMPROVEMENTS.



HEAD OF ARTS.



HEAD OF WASTE DISPOSAL.



HEAD OF GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY GROUPS.



HEAD OF FLOODING AND LAND DRAINAGE.

In the Abolition Bill, Patrick Jenkin states quite clearly who he's appointing to run London if the GLC goes.

Himself.

It gives him direct control over all the Whitehall committees and joint boards which would take over the majority of the GLC's functions.

A free hand to do whatever he wants to do whether anyone else likes it or not.

And that's not all. It also gives him the power to change the

details of the Bill itself after it's been approved by Parliament.

It's an extraordinary precedent.

One which not only denies all Londoners their say, but also denies Parliament its rightful role in the process by which Government policies are implemented.

Right from the start, the Government has made it clear it isn't going to let the people of London decide how London's run.

Now it seems it isn't going to let the Houses of Parliament decide either.

SAY NO TO NO SAY.

Grenadian voters emerge from shadow of Gairy after 30 years

From Christopher Thomas
St George's, Grenada

The tiny Caribbean island of Grenada began life as a non-colonial democracy yesterday. Sir Eric Gairy, the right-wing autocrat who has cast his shadow over Grenadian politics for 30 years, was roundly rejected.

The United States, most of the Caribbean, and Britain are delighted at the victory of the middle-of-the-road New National Party, formed only four months ago as a frail coalition of three political groups. Only in recent weeks has it looked like a cohesive, serious challenger to Sir Eric's Grenada United Labour Party (GULP).

The election was peaceful. The pro-Cuban Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement lost its deposit in nearly all the 13 constituencies it contested.

The election result was also a rejection of the personality cult of Sir Eric, aged 62, who shut himself away in a rented house in St George's for the duration of the campaign. He has given no recent interviews.

It must have been especially insulting to him to have lost to Mr Herbert Blaize, leader of the new National Party, a former political ally who struck out with his own Grenada National Party in the September 1977 general election. He lost then to Sir Eric, and several times subsequently.

Six years earlier they had been banished together by the Governor-General to the dependent island of Carriacou, 30 miles north of Grenada, as a punishment for fomenting a general strike.

Both began their working lives in the cheerful manner of so many of their generation, toiling long hours in the oilfields of the Dutch island of Aruba, off the Venezuelan coast. While in his twenties Mr Blaize was paralysed in a cycling accident. He walked

Election Results for 15-Seat House of Representatives

New National Party	14
Grenada United Labour Party	1
Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement	0
Civilian Democratic Labour Party	0
Grenada Federated Labour Party	0
Independents	0

Last Election, Dec 7, 1976

Grenada United Labour Party	9
People's Alliance	6
Independents	0

(The People's Alliance was a coalition of Maurice Bishop's New Jewel Movement and the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement.)

again, but always stiffly. He now appears frail with arthritis. Sir Eric did not contest a seat in Monday's general election, doubtless for fear of spoiling his boast that he has never personally lost a popular vote. Had GULP done well he doubtless would have arranged a safe by-election for himself.

Mr Blaize is a native of sleep Carriacou, an insurance salesman and later a solicitor. He was chief minister in the 1960s, becoming the first Prime Minister in March 1967. Sir Eric defeated him in August of the same year. He has consistently been regarded as a representative of the middle classes.

The other principal players in the new Government of Grenada are: Mr Francis Alexis, a deputy law school dean in Barbados who returned after the US-led invasion. He was abroad for 10 years. He headed the Grenada Democratic Movement, a party of exiles, formed with US backing to oppose the Marxist Government of Maurice Bishop.

Mr George Brizan, aged 41, a teacher of history and economics in Grenadian schools. He was head of the New Democratic Party which, together with the parties formerly headed by Mr Blaize and Mr Alexis, make up the new governing party of Grenada.

Old-country ties linger amid alien cultures

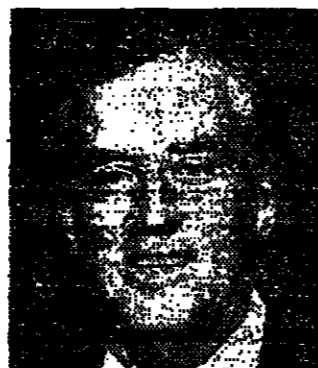
In the first of three articles on Australia as Mr Bob Hawke begins his second term of office, Alan Hamilton looks at the country's ties with Britain and changing attitudes to the Crown.

An outsider observing the Australian general election campaign could well have been forgiven for thinking that Mr Bob Hawke, with his presidential style and cult of personality, was campaigning to be returned as head of state.

He is, of course, merely the Prime Minister, and he knows well enough that, like his Labour predecessor, Mr Gough Whitlam, he could be removed from office by a higher authority. That higher authority, however, maintains a distinctly low profile in present-day Australia.

There is no longer any portrait of the Queen on banknotes or stamps (although her profile still graces the postage), and there is no plea for the Almighty to save her in the national anthem, *Advance Australia Fair*.

There have been suggestions that the Union Jack in the corner of the national flag be replaced with a device of



Sir John Bjelke-Petersen: Monarchist standard bearer.

similar shape and design, but in Australia's national colours of green and gold. And there are plenty of Australians willing to predict an end to the monarchical tie within 10 or 20 years.

Logically there is no good reason why a nation of 15 million proud, prosperous, and seemingly self-confident people on the other side of the world, with a strong national identity of their own, should retain allegiance to the British monarch, 214 years after a Whitty sea captain landed in Botany

Bay and claimed it for King George III.

The old preferential trade links were largely destroyed when Britain joined Europe, and Australian farmers now complain that EEC surplus dumping is ruining their traditional markets and livelihoods.

The country's primary defence treaty is with the United States through ANZUS, and the once-endless caravan of young Aussies taking the Silk Route by minibus for a couple of years' work in the old country has dried to a trickle as work permits have become harder to obtain.

A change of immigration policy, for which Mr Hawke's Government has been unfairly accused of being anti-British, means that a majority in the past two years have been from parts other than Britain.

But the ties remain. Despite an influx of southern Europeans in the 1960s and 1970s, and a wave of Asians in the 1980s, it will be many years before Australians with Anglo-Saxon and Celtic stock are squeezed into a minority.

The chief monarchist standard bearer is the boldly eccentric National Party Premier

of Queensland, Sir John Bjelke-Petersen, not even a Pom himself. Part of his election campaign was to take advertisements in the newspapers inviting readers to write to him deploring the loss of the Queen's person on the banknotes and in the national anthem.

A senior official of the more moderate Liberal Party, which is in an enforced and not always happy coalition with the National Party, explained it thus: "We are essentially a white, Christian, Western democratic nation with a Westminster-style Parliament. Look at our neighbours - Indonesia, Philippines, even China. All very alien cultures indeed. We sometimes can feel marooned."

Defence was barely mentioned as an election issue, as there are no votes in defence in peacetime. But there is some concern in Australia both about the weakness of the ANZUS Treaty, which gives no firm guarantee that the US will rush to Australia's aid in time of need, and about present views to the north.

There is continued instability in East Timor, only 200

miles north of Darwin, and cross-border insurgency from Irian Jaya, the Indonesian-ruled western half of the island of New Guinea, into independent Papua New Guinea. A Communist government in Jakarta would be seen in Canberra as a major threat.

It is hardly conceivable that Britain would mount a Falklands-style expedition in Australia's hour of need, but the connection with the Crown gives the Australians some extra feeling of identity in a region where they perceive themselves surrounded by people who are not their own kith and kin. They may not be as self-confident as they like to make out.

One of Mr Hawke's campaign staff put it much more simply. "Charles and Diana were a terrific success when they came here. And do you know why? The most popular television programmes have been *Dallas*, *Dynasty* and *Cosmo*. Aussies are absolute suckers for a good soap opera, and that's what the Royal Family is. The best soap opera on earth."

Tomorrow: Crime

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

When the House of Commons last debated Hong Kong statehood went to its head. That was back in May, when members of all parties were so anxious not to prejudice negotiations that they fell over themselves to proclaim their confidence in Chinese good intentions.

So much so as to prove a positive embarrassment to British negotiators. It became harder for them thereafter to convince the Chinese that there was a serious danger of the House rejecting an unsatisfactory agreement.

That was the time for the Commons to sing a tough song. Now that a settlement has been reached it would be pointless doing so in today's debate. But the agreement is so widely regarded as a triumph of British diplomacy that there does not seem much risk of that. Yet the House will be failing in its task if it indulges simply in an exchange of mutual congratulations.

The agreement is in general a good one. Not only is it bound to be accepted; it deserves to be accepted. Yet some problems remain which need to be examined carefully.

One of the most critical is how far and how fast to develop Hong Kong's internal democracy. It is now intended that from next year the legislature council will be composed partly of members elected by all those who serve on the urban and regional councils and on district boards, partly of members elected by professional and corporate interest groups, partly of members appointed by the Governor and partly of official members.

Pressure to hold direct elections

This structure will be reviewed in 1987, before the next elections in 1988. But there is pressure to move more swiftly towards a system of full direct elections. This arrangement would be the simplest, could command the most widespread international acceptance and would therefore be the hardest for the Chinese to sweep away without incurring international odium.

This is a powerful case, but there is not apparently widespread support in Hong Kong for rushing in that direction yet. The arguments for caution is that the Hong Kong tradition is one of consensus politics, that this will be all the more necessary after 1997, that it will be more easily preserved if there is a balance of interests and experience in the legislative council, that this requires at least some indirect election, and that anyway it would be folly to push through reforms which the Chinese would not be prepared to swallow.

In due course the whole legislative council will need to be elected, whether directly or indirectly. But it would seem wise to me to leave the newly devised structure in place until the 1987 review, and not to prejudice that review now. Whatever system is intended for Hong Kong after 1997, however, will need to be in place by the 1991 elections at the latest if it is to have full legitimacy.

Delicate questions of nationality

Then there is the delicate question of nationality laws. Some hurt and anxiety are inevitable when there is a change of sovereignty. But the group who pose the greatest problem are the 6,000 to 10,000 - the *seventies babies* - British dependent territory citizens of neither Chinese nor British origin.

They and their children, in theory at least, could become stateless persons. As Hong Kong residents they could apply for Chinese citizenship, though without the certainty as non-Chinese that this would be granted.

The present generation will probably be granted British overseas citizenship, which does not give the right of abode in this country but implies an ultimate moral obligation on Britain if things go badly wrong.

There is a demand that the same status should be available to those born there after 1997. But it would seem to me to be politically unwise to offer the vague title of British overseas citizen to an unknown number of people indefinitely into the future. There would remain the residual responsibility in particular cases not to allow individuals to become stateless.

What the people of Hong Kong need above all at this stage, though, is evidence of Britain's continuing interest. The suggestion of an annual parliamentary debate may be unrealistic, but there could at least be an official annual report on progress.

The Indian chemical tragedy

Fatal to insects rats and man

New York (NYT) - The substance that escaped from a storage tank at Bhopal, India, with severe loss of life is widely used in preparing insecticides, such as Union Carbide's Sevin. It is known as methyl isocyanate, and even in small amounts it produces a voluminous discharge from the eyes and is extremely irritating to the skin and internal organs.

Heavy exposure can apparently cause enough fluid accumulation in the lungs to cause drowning. Its effects differ basically from those of cyanide compounds which attack the nervous system, causing paralysis of the respiratory muscles.

American occupational safety

rules specify that in one eight-hour day workers must not be exposed to more than 0.02 part of methyl isocyanate per million parts of air. This amounts to 0.05 milligrams per cubic metre.

At the New York offices of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Mr Nick Fannick, an industrial hygienist, said half the rats exposed to 5 part per million for four hours died. Even light exposures have a long-lasting effect on humans, causing an allergic or asthmatic reaction to the slightest further exposure.

No skin exposure is permitted in US plants. No information was available on the stringency of similar regulations in India.

Disasters of the past

New York (AP) - The Bhopal leak of poison gas is one of the worst industrial accidents in history. Here are some other serious industrial and environmental accidents:

- Sept. 1921, an explosion at the BASF chemical plant at Oppau, in West Germany, killed 561.
- April, 1942, a coal dust explosion at the Honkoku Colliery in China killed 1,572.
- April 1947, 561 died when a ship carrying fertilizer exploded at Texas City, Texas.
- Aug. 1956, 1,100 died when

dynamite trucks exploded in Cali, Colombia.

- Dec. 1975, an explosion in a mine at Chasnala, India, killed 431.
- In 1979, an estimated 300 died from anthrax after an accident at a biological and chemical warfare plant at Novosibirsk in the Soviet Union.
- Last month at least 452 were killed when 80,000 barrels of natural gas exploded at a state-owned Pemex facility in Mexico.

US nuns demand end to arms for El Salvador

San Salvador (AFP) - Thirty-four US and Canadian nuns demanded an end to American military aid to El Salvador in a demonstration in front of the US embassy here. The nuns of the Maryknoll and Ursuline orders were friends of three nuns and a lay-woman missionary who were raped and murdered by Salvadorean soldiers on December 2, 1981.

Meanwhile, the left-wing guerrillas of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation

Front (FMLN) have launched a campaign to sabotage El Salvador's main exports, immediately after the second meeting between guerrilla leaders and government officials last Friday. The insurgents will attack lorries loaded with coffee, cotton or sugar cane, the guerrillas' radio announced.

- Rebel Ambush: Guerrillas killed at least 42 soldiers when they attacked a hamlet 30 miles south-east of the capital, senior military sources said yesterday.


Leaders' respects: Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister (left) and the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Mr Arjun Singh, with doctors in Bhopal yesterday.

Confident Lee looks to all 79 seats

From Stephen Taylor, Singapore

The question hanging over the Singapore general election on December 22 is not who will win but rather what kind of opposition will remain afterwards.

The People's Action Party (PAP) of Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister, is confident of winning all 79 seats in a newly-enlarged Parliament, including the Anson constituency held by Singapore's sole opposition MP and Mr Lee's arch political foe, Mr "Ben" Jeyaretnam.

Officially dissolving the present 75-seat Parliament yesterday, President Devan Nair announced that nominations would close on December 12.

It has become traditional for the island's elections to be held at intervals of four years instead of the constitutional term of five years, and it is a sign of the PAP's assurance that highly controversial policy proposals have been floated in an election year. Mr Lee's attempts at social engineering, for example, with graduates being encouraged to

breed and the lower orders being offered incentives to stop, have caused some alienation.

Another controversial feature has been the introduction of Mr Lee's son as a PAP candidate. Brigadier Lee Hsien Loong, former Deputy Commander of the Defence Forces, has an academic record comparable to his father's (both double firsts at Cambridge), but there have been the inevitable suggestions that Lee Senior is attempting to forge a political dynasty.

In the four elections since 1968 opposition groups such as Mr Jeyaretnam's Workers' Party have polled between 16 per cent and 30 per cent of the total vote, but have failed to win a single seat under the first-past-the-post system.

Mr Jeyaretnam broke the mould at a by-election for the lower-income Anson constituency in 1981 and his presence has injected liveliness into political life. Although his parliamentary performance is

said to have been lacklustre he is forthright in criticizing the PAP, claiming that it has destroyed all opponents, subverted the trade union movement and taken control of the press.

Countering claims that he is intolerant of opposition of any kind, Mr Lee encouraged a constitutional amendment in mid-year under which the three Opposition members who receive the most votes are assured of parliamentary seats, though their voting rights will be restricted.

The six opposition parties are expected to field about 50 candidates, including four of the *seventies babies*, whose leadership was detained without trial in the 1960s crackdown on communists and trade unionists. At the time of the last election about 30 political detainees were being held under the Internal Security Act. Now there is just one.

Bonn pays £95m to free E Germans

From Our Correspondent Bonn

Bonn has spent nearly £95 million so far this year on buying freedom in the West for thousands of East Germans, a West German newspaper said yesterday.

The conservative daily, *Die Welt*, said the East Germans included 2,115 political prisoners bought out between January and the end of November. This was a record annual figure since Bonn began paying for the release of such prisoners in 1963, the newspaper added.

Die Welt said Bonn expected that a total of 2,200 political prisoners would have been bought out by the end of this year. However, the Bonn Ministry for Inner German Relations declined to comment on the report.

The other East Germans for whom East Berlin had been paid handsomely were people who had been granted exit visas to travel to West Germany, according to the paper. A total of 38,000 East Germans had either been allowed to resettle in West Germany, had escaped or been bought out by Bonn to the end of November.

Rival Basque leaders aim for peace accord

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Talks began yesterday between the Basque regional government and the Basque Socialists, aimed at reaching a long-term agreement to tackle the region's grave problems.

The Basque country threatens to become ungovernable as the autonomous government that was elected last February, lacks a majority in Parliament.

Terrorism by ETA, the Basque separatist organization is answered by extreme right-wing "death squads" and the restructuring of local shipyards brings almost daily clashes between the workers and the police.

Senior Carlos Garaikoetxea, the Basque Nationalist Chief Minister yesterday met Señor Jose Benegas, the Basque Socialist and Opposition leader in Vitoria, to discuss Benegas's offer of a three-year parliamentary agreement. The agreement was approved in Madrid with Señor Felipe Gonzalez, Spain's Prime Minister.

The Basque Nationalist Party has only 32 of the 75 seats in the Basque parliament.

The chief Minister has a further motive for seeking agreement. His own party is tearing itself apart in a peculiarly Basque dispute, which has raged for months, over whether

residual powers should lie with the individual Basque provinces or with the autonomous government.

In return for the Socialists' votes, Señor Benegas has demanded a basic agreement on tackling terrorism and on the final limits of the Statute of Guernica, which established the Basque autonomous region.

The two rival political parties have fought, often bitterly, over such issues, especially at moments of tension. Before any pact can be implemented, the two leaders will have to sell it to their own highly suspicious parties. But the grim alternative envisaged by some Basques is of the present slide towards a breakdown of governmental authority degenerating into a Lebanon-like situation.

Spain's two police associations protested yesterday over a decision by a Barcelona court to order three police inspectors to stand trial over the killing of an urban terrorist in Barcelona two years ago. The three have been charged with homicide arising out of the death of Juan Martin Luna, who was one of the leaders of the First of October Anti-Fascist Resistance Groups (GRAPO).

A taste of Paradise to Colombo.



Every Wednesday,
Friday and Sunday...with
the people of Paradise.

On all our luxurious 747 flights to Colombo you'll enjoy fine wines and a choice of menu - even in Economy - and arrive early the next morning. En route - service with a gentle warmth that can only belong to those who live in Paradise.



Call your Travel Agent or Air Lanka, Tel: London (01) 439-0251/2/3; Birmingham 2366211; Bristol 290446; Edinburgh 2267392; Glasgow 2441121; Leeds 434466; Liverpool 2366135; Manchester 8328511.

سكزا من الاربعاء

1. The first thing I noticed
 when I stepped out of the
 room was the smell of
 fresh air. It was a
 wonderful surprise. I had
 been told that the
 weather was bad, but
 it was perfect. The
 sun was shining, and
 the birds were singing.
 I felt like I had
 found a new world.
 I had heard that the
 place was beautiful, but
 I didn't know how
 beautiful it really was.
 The view was amazing.
 I had never seen
 anything like it before.
 The water was so clear,
 and the mountains were
 so high. I felt like
 I was on top of the
 world. I had found
 a place that was
 exactly what I needed.
 I had been looking for
 a place to live, and
 here it was. I had
 found it. I was
 happy. I was
 home.

The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry.

SPECTRUM

The great space race to catch a comet

Halley and his comet

John Gilmartin/Geoffrey Sims



David Whitehouse describes the rivalry to intercept Halley's Comet as it heads for the Sun

Comets have always fascinated, and occasionally terrified, the human race. These unpredictable visitors were once thought of as omens of war, famine and pestilence, or as fireballs cast down by God as warnings.

The truth is that a comet is "a dirty snowball" up to several kilometres in diameter and composed of ice, various quantities of frozen gases, and dust. This combination may not sound very thrilling, but with the imminent approach of the most famous of them all, Halley's Comet, a new space race has begun to be the first to meet it.

Halley's Comet is named after the English astronomer Edmund Halley who observed the comet in 1682, calculated its orbit and correctly predicted its return in 1757.

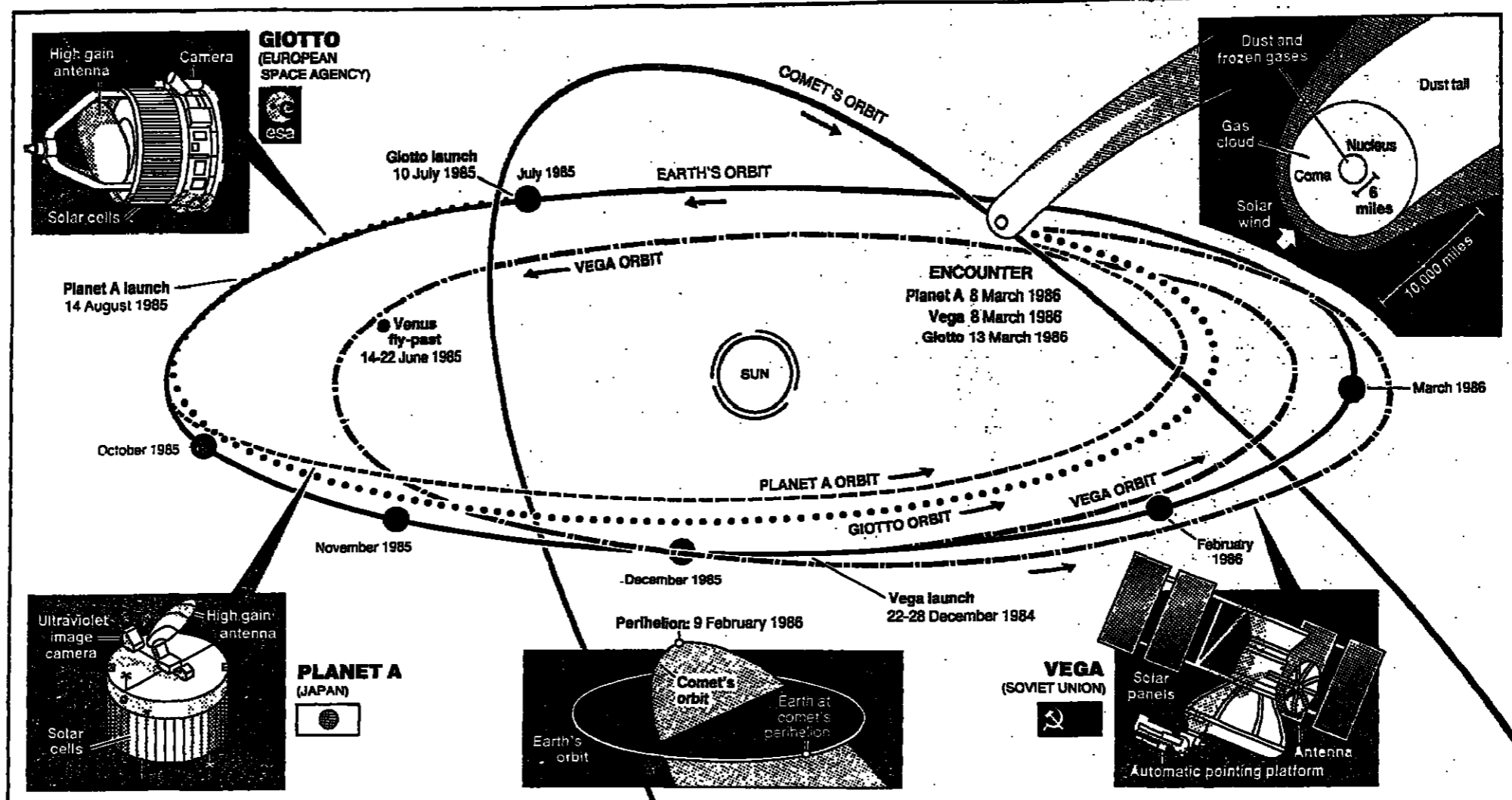
As relics of the early solar system, comets are very important. They are relatively unchanged since the formation of

the planets because they lie in "cold storage". They tell scientists about the nature and composition of the ancient gas cloud which formed the Sun, about formation processes in general and of the birth of our planetary system.

Halley's Comet returns to Earth every 76 years and it is next scheduled to pass close to the Sun in 1986. When it does, a flotilla of space probes will intercept it.

NASA was denied cash to be first

An embarrassing fact to emerge from this exciting development is that scientists from America's National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), who have made the United States the world leader in space exploration for almost 20 years, will not be fielding a craft because of budget cutbacks.



However, more by luck than planning, the Americans are poised to become the first to shoot a space probe through the tail of a comet, albeit another comet and not Halley.

Last December NASA scientists reached the climax of the most complex series of orbital manoeuvres undertaken by a spacecraft when ISEE-3, the International-Sun-Earth-Explorer, was hurled towards a comet. ISEE-3 was launched in 1978 for a completely different task. It was designed to investigate and monitor the Sun's influence on the Earth's outer atmosphere. However, while it returned valuable data, a few scientists elsewhere began hatching a plan to upstage the other spacefarers involved in the race to Halley.

Two of the intercepting space probes, called Vega, are Russian; they will be launched later this month towards Venus, a part of a call on their way to Halley. Two more are Japanese while the fifth and most sophisticated is being sent by the European Space Agency (ESA). It is called Giotto.

Not surprisingly, American scientists have viewed this situation with alarm and for several years they lobbied for a mission to Halley. But NASA was denied the money while the European, Japanese and Russian projects went ahead. US scientists realized with bitterness and disappointment that it had become too late to send a world emissary to greet Halley's Comet.

NASA scientist Dr Robert Farquhar realized that by using an outrageous series of manoeuvres and orbital changes, the United States ISEE-3 could make it to Comet Giacobini-Zinner months before the others reached Halley's. It was with this in mind that ISEE-3 was placed in the first of its transfer orbits in August last year. The satellite does not contain enough fuel to catch up the comet by itself so it was sent in a series of looping trajectories to swing it around the Moon five times. Each lunar flyby gave the spacecraft a gravitational kick to increase its velocity and change its direction. The final, and most

critical, one last December took it 60 miles above the lunar surface.

The probe will plunge into the tail of Giacobini-Zinner in September 1985, passing a mere 3,000 km from the nucleus and providing the first on-site measurements of a comet and its environment. The following year it will be between Halley and the Sun when the other probes reach it; a valuable additional platform from which to collect data to complement the observations made by other spacecraft.

A rocket will plunge deep into its shroud

Most comets travel in highly elliptical, cigar-shaped orbits that seldom bring them back to the warmth of the Sun. When they near the Sun, the frozen volatiles evaporate to form a fuzzy halo of gas, called a coma, around the nucleus. This coma is usually all that can be seen when a comet is discovered.

As the comet approaches the Sun, the gases and dust are blown away, billowing behind to form the familiar tail. Giotto will be launched in

mid-1985 by an Ariane rocket and will intercept Halley's nine months later, plunging deep into its dust shroud. At the speed Giotto will travel, collisions with minute dust particles could cause damage. To help target Giotto close to the nucleus, European astronomers have signed an agreement with their Soviet counterparts.

The Soviet Vega spacecraft will arrive at Halley's first and its tracking data will prove invaluable in the fine-tuning of Giotto's trajectory. Scientists estimate that Giotto has a 90 per cent chance of survival, but the longer it lives and the closer it gets to the nucleus the more valuable will be the data it returns.

All the probes going to Halley's are flyby missions - the logical first step - but the ultimate in "friendly" exploration would be a probe in orbit alongside a comet for long periods. The problem is that such a spacecraft requires advanced rocket systems which have yet to be developed and would be limited to unimpressive comets which always stay relatively close to the Sun.

One such comet is Kopff, which orbits the Sun every 6.7 years. NASA is considering

using a spacecraft called the Mariner Mark 2, making use of existing components and spare parts such as motors and tanks from the Mars Viking missions and antennae from Voyager.

NASA hopes this will keep the cost of such a mission low, around \$300m (£250m), and that it could be launched from the space shuttle in 1990.

Timing would be critical because Mariner must meet the comet four years after launch when it is furthest from the Sun and remain within 10km of the comet for two years as it nears the Sun.

Kopff would be an exciting mission but already cometary scientists are even more ambitiously looking at a probe that will bring back to Earth a sample of a cometary nucleus. Such a sophisticated mission could not be undertaken this century, but a less demanding task would be to return with a sample of gas and dust from a comet's environment.

Engineers and scientists at NASA and ESA are studying the possibility of using a probe similar to that going to Halley's for a mission that could take place within the next few years. A possible target is Comet Brorsen-Metcalf, which has a

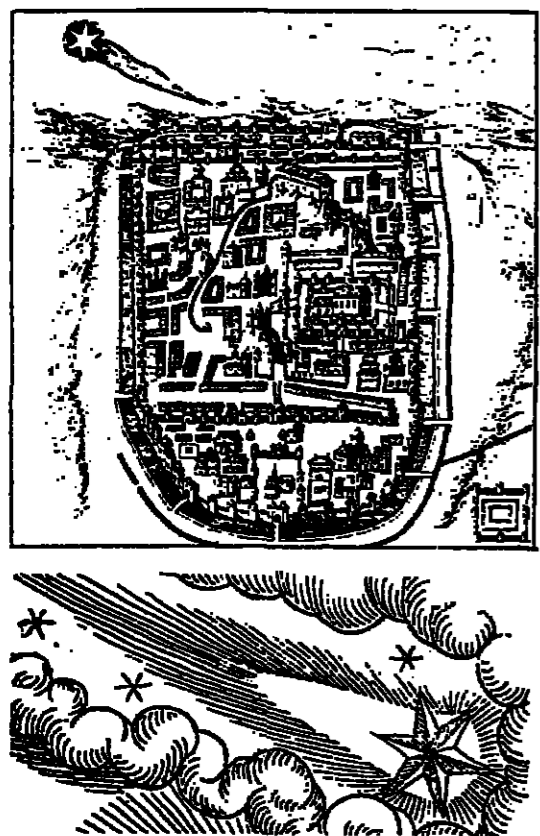
period of 70 years. A probe launched in December 1987 will encounter this comet in August 1989 and land back on Earth four months later.

This mission would be attractive because of its rich scientific reward and reduced cost because a lot of development work has been carried out on the Giotto probe.

America's ISEE-3 has now been renamed the International Cometary Explorer (ICE) and by 1987, after Halley's comet has started its journey back to the cold outer reaches of the solar system, ICE will be 120 million km from Earth. At that distance, 75 times greater than the range for which its radio transmitters were designed, even NASA's upgraded deep-space tracking network will lose ICE's signal.

ICE will return to Earth by about 2015. As one NASA scientist recently remarked: "The observations of the comet are OK but getting there will be half the fun."

The author is a space scientist at the Mullard Space Science Laboratory of University College London.



Top left: Halley's Comet over Jerusalem in 66 AD. Below: as seen in 1546 when it was commemorated by Pope Calixtus III. Above: depicted in the Bayeux Tapestry of 1066. Right: Halley's Comet in a cartoon by Leonard Raven-Hill (1767-1842) from *Punch*, 1910.

The alternative Booker list

moreover... Miles Kington

Some men of letters recommend some books by some of their friends.

A N Hamish - I very much enjoyed *Flaubert's Budgie*, which in my opinion should have won the Booker Prize: taut, brilliant, mesmeric and jewelled. The funniest book of the year for me was Volume 19 of the *Humphrey Lyttelton Letters*, in which the distinguished jazz trumpeter continues his correspondence with his old housemaster in an attempt to get paid for a gig he did for him in 1961. And the finest book of poetry beyond a doubt was *Sequestration* by Price Waterhouse, obscure and baffling, but giving glimpses of mighty forces in motion.

Hamish Nairn - Although I enjoyed *Thackeray's Fiddle*, my favourite novel of the year was *Arthur Liar* by Price Waterhouse: taut, brilliant, mesmeric and jewelled. This should have won the Booker Prize. The most outstanding historical book of the year was *Stanley and the Women*, a study of Baldwin's heroic struggle in 1936 to choose between Wallis Simpson, Queen Mary and the Queen Mother. Best book of poetry: *Hello, Everybody* by Kleinwort Benson.

Nairn Paul Theroux - Brilliant! Taunt! Mesmeric! Jewelled, even? Yes, *Tolstoy's Gerbil* was all of these things and should have won the Booker Prize, but even more I enjoyed *Money* by Craig Rich, if I have the name right. Funniest book of the year was a study of the Duchess of Windsor, *How to be a Wallis*, and the most intriguing was *Stanley and the Women*, in which Scottish comedian Stanley Baxter reveals the secrets of doing a high-class drag act. I haven't read any poetry this year, but if I had I think I should have enjoyed *Library Fines* by Philip Larkin.

Theroux Massingham-Ferguson-Tractor - The most outstanding novel of the year for me was *Brilliant, Taunt, Mesmeric and Jewelled* by Julian Parrot, which should have won the Booker Prize and may well have done so for all I know, as I was out of the country at the time. Travel books were all the rage this year, and I very much enjoyed Clive James's barrowing account of seeing Japanese TV extracts in viewing theatres all over the world (he usually ended up screaming to be let out), but my favourite was

fast-moving, taut, moving and compelling, though again the ending seemed missing. Finally, one excellent gardening book: *The Name of The Rose*.

Lincoln by Gore Vidal, a quiet study of this sometimes overlooked cathedral city. One excellent children's book: *Stanley and the Parrots*.

The Ethiopian Cultural Attache - Hello. The books I most enjoyed were all written, coincidentally, by the Ethiopian leader, Colonel Mengistu. One was a novel, *Money? What Money?*, which I am pleased to say won the Ethiopian Book Prize. One was a historical work, *Ten Glorious Years and Lots More To Come*, and one a personal memoir entitled *Believe Me, I Haven't Seen The Money, And That's Final*, which came out in a private jewelled edition. It was also taut, brilliant and mesmeric.

McEwan Hunter - I very much enjoyed a thriller by a name new to me, *Hit List* by Ian MacGregor. Taut, violent, brilliant, mesmeric, fast-moving and gripping. Unfortunately, there seemed to be no ending in my copy. I was also sent for review this year an anonymous racy tale of the sea, *HMS Conqueror Logbook*, which was

fast-moving, taut, moving and compelling, though again the ending seemed missing. Finally, one excellent gardening book: *The Name of The Rose*.

Craig Parrot - Before the Falklands War started, Port Stanley was just a sleepy little colonial town far from anywhere. Now a major garrison port, it seems with the sort of life we used to associate with Marseilles - poets, pimps, musicians, peddlers, prostitutes and colourful madames from all lands - and I very much enjoyed a new study of the place, *Stanley and the Women*. Best book of poetry: *Six Into One Doesn't Go* by Booker Prize.

Arthur Koestler - Yes, it's really me, Arthur Koestler! Yes, there is communication from the other side. And things are pretty exciting over here, I can tell you. For instance, I have been having some long chats with Herr Hitler, now a reformed character, and he has been telling me the truth about his diaries, some of which he has allowed me to read; so my message to readers of *The Times*, and especially to Lord Dacre, is ... pip, pip, pip, pip, ... damn, my money's run out. I'll try to get through again as soon as possible ...

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 513)

ACROSS	1 Rubber seal (6)	13 Thick-skinned mammal (9)	20 Speak (5)
2 Swampy land (6)	14 Volition (4)	21 Spoon (3)	
3 Clamorous (4)	15 Toss (4)	22 Employment (4)	
4 Arab headdress (8)	16 Brahmaputra state (5)	23 Dirt particles (4)	
5 Fine fabric (8)			
6 Church bench (3)			
7 Learned (13)			
8 Annoy constantly (3)			
9 Target centre (5,3)			
10 Miscellaneous (8)			
11 Inca republic (4)			
12 Male party (6)			
13 Excuse (6)			
DOWN			
1 Swallow rapidly (4)			
2 Whining (9)			
3 Symbol (5)			
4 Non uniform (5)			
5 Drizzle (4)			
6 Emotional display (5)			
7 Fusion projectile (1,4)			
8 Comical (5)			
9 Character (5)			

SOLUTION TO No 512:
ACROSS: 1 Scraps 5 Leak 6 Ozone 9 Lift off 11 Not plain 13 Mix 15 Centre forward 17 Path 18 Virtuoso 21 Appoint 22 Paten 23 Aden 24 Denied
DOWN: 2 Clout 3 Age 4 Self inflicted 5 Luff 6 Erotica 7 Cornucopia 10 Fixed point 12 Lark 14 Brat 16 Notepad 19 Ome 20 Kilo 22 Pan

ArtemideGB

17-19 Neal Street, Covent Garden, London WC2
Telephone 01-240 2552

TIZIO

London	Artem Designs, WC2	Belfast	Balk Interiors
Coventry, NI, WC2	Harrods, SW1	Cambridge	Quip
Heal's, W1	Into Lighting/Design, SW18	Edinburgh	Hans Kristian
Liberty, W1	Mr Light, SW2, SW10		Inhouse
Quip, W11	The Cornish Shop, SW3		Tony Walker Interiors
The General Trading Co, SW1	The Lighting Workshop, WC2		Geoffrey Dayton
The London Lighting Co, SW3	Abode		Domain
Coventry			Tony Walker Interiors
			Mimi Siders
			Holmes of Reading
			Rune

Tomorrow Profile of Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General

THE STYLE IS VINTAGE BUT NOT THE PRICE

Also Old Coronation Ruby and finest Old Tawnies.

Imported by H. Sichel & Sons Ltd, London WC2.

WEDNESDAY PAGE

Enjoy the richness of Christmas

Twelfth Night, with its King and Queen and feasting, used to be one of the high points of Christmas. Shona Crawford Poole explains how today's pudding replaced the festive cake



TWELFTH NIGHT.

Midwinter revels: The King and Queen of Twelfth Night as seen by George Cruikshank

As if they did not have enough to answer for without fanning Christmas, Queen Victoria and Charles Dickens all but ruined its image. What had once been a lively, not to say licentious, midwinter revel was domesticated and commercialized. It was in their time that the bosoms of the family rose higher in men's admitted aspirations than any yet unconquered bosom except at the office party which has close spiritual ties with the Christmas celebrations of old.

Twelfth night was the big do, and by the 17th century its gastronomic centrepiece was a twelfth cake. The cake hid tokens by which a king and queen were chosen to rule the night's festivities, turning the everyday order topsy-turvy.

The tradition of a pretend king licensed with large but limited powers can be traced back much further. By the 19th century it had become no more than a genteel parlour game. Ornate and expensive cakes drew crowds to the bakers' windows, but they no longer held the key to festive power. These were distributed separately now by lots drawn from a bag or hat, casting in on the fun, printers ran off pictures of not only kings and queens but also a host of eccentric characters for partygoers to pick and play. The characters changed with fashion exactly as pantomime figures and jokes do today and their names are just as often alliterative. The Victorian character sheets are littered with Lady Lovewells, Sir Walter Watchfuls, Miles Misrules, Fanny Fidgets and Toby Tipples.

Remnants of the near-forgotten festivities linger on. Elaborate twelfth cakes became homely Christmas cakes and sometimes still conceal a trinket or charm for good luck. More often, though, if there is a silver sixpence to be found, it will be

under the holly in a home-made Christmas pudding. Recipes for "light" Christmas cakes which are less fruity and costly versions of the dark, traditional kind, turn up every year. There is nothing the matter with them except that they lack festive spirit, the special occasion feeling of a really extravagant cake.

Instead, or as well, why not make the richest, darkest chocolate cake imaginable? This one keeps for weeks in the fridge. It is moist enough to serve as a pudding and elegant enough for anyone's tea. The recipe is based on American writer-caterer Martha Stewart's double diabolio cake, and it is diabolically good, that's for sure.

Very rich chocolate cake Makes a 30cm (12in) cake

- 110g (4oz) muscatel raisins, chopped
- 120ml (4fl oz) whisky
- 400g (14oz) good dark chocolate
- 4 tablespoons water
- 225g (8oz) unsalted butter
- 6 large eggs, separated
- 285g (10oz) light brown or caster sugar
- 110g (4oz) wholemeal flour, or plain flour
- 170g (6oz) ground almonds
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

For the icing: 340g (12oz) good dark chocolate 350ml (12fl oz) double cream

Soak the raisins in the whisky overnight.

In a large bowl set over a pan of hot water, melt the chocolate with water, then stir in the butter, a piece at a time until the mixture is smooth.

Beat the egg yolks with the sugar until the mixture is pale and fluffy, and stir it into the melted chocolate. Add the flour and the almonds followed by the raisins and whisky and mix them all lightly together.

Whisk the egg whites with the salt to a stiff meringue and fold it into the chocolate mixture, adding a about a third of the meringue at a time.

Turn the cake mixture into a 30cm (12in) cake tin which has been lined with buttered greaseproof paper or with baking parchment. Alternatively, divide the mixture between two 20cm (8in) tins prepared in the same way. Loose-bottomed tins with expanding sides are the easiest to use.

Smooth the top of the cake



A portly Twelfth Night king getting portlier

and bake it in a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4) for 35 minutes or until the centre of the cake is still moist but the sides are just beginning to shrink from the tin.

Leave the cake in the papers but out of its tin until it is quite cold.

Remove the papers and set the cake on a wire rack to ice. Melt together the chocolate and cream, stir until smooth and pour the icing over the cake. If the heat has made the icing very thin allow it to cool and thicken a little before pouring it over the cake.

Allow at least two hours for the icing to harden to a rich, fudge-like consistency. Restrained decorations such as dark chocolate leaves or curls look best on this cake.

To make chocolate leaves pick a selection of non-poisonous leaves - bay or rose for example. Wash and dry them. Melt some good dark chocolate on a plate over a pan of hot water and dip the underside of every leaf into the chocolate. Transfer them to a wire rack to cool. When the chocolate has hardened, peel away the real leaves to reveal their exact copies in chocolate.

You will probably break as many as you succeed in making but as the chocolate can be melted and re-used nothing need be wasted.

Not everyone enjoys the rich puddings traditional in this country at Christmas. Two luxurious fruit puddings which are posh versions of everyday fare look and taste acceptably festive.

Instead of pears cooked in red wine, try whole apples cooked in cider - *pommes dorées* no less. There is now an edible gold powder paint which can be used to gild stalks and real or chocolate leaves, turning humble apples into a real party piece.

Pommes dorées Serves six 6 Cox's orange pippins 1 pint cider 55g (2oz) demerara sugar, or to taste

2 whole cloves 10cm (4in) stick cinnamon

Choose good, crisp apples which are evenly sized and not bruised. Using a very sharp knife, cut off the skin of the apples in a spiral starting from the base and preserving the shape of the fruit as prettily as possible. Leave the stems attached. Drop the peeled

apples into water acidulated with a tablespoon of vinegar or lemon juice to stop them browning.

Heat together the cider, sugar and spices, stirring until the sugar has dissolved. Arrange the apples in one layer in a casserole or oven-proof dish and pour the cider syrup and spices over them. Bake the apples in a very cool oven (120°C/250°F, gas mark 1/2) for about two hours, turning them several times. The apples are ready when they are tender but still whole, which is why they are baked so slowly.

Remove the spices and leave the apples to cool in the syrup. Chill them well before serving. The flavour of the apples improves with keeping, refrigerated, for up to a week. The fruit should be turned daily to keep it moist and evenly coloured.

Serve the apples in a glass bowl decorated, if you like, with plain or gilded leaves. The stems of the fruit can also be gilded.

Christmas fruit compot is spiced too and the fruit cooked in red wine. The wine can be as ordinary as you like.

Christmas fruit compot Serves ten to twelve

900g (2lb) mixed, dried fruit, prunes, apricots, figs, peaches and pears

1 bottle red wine

110g (4oz) demerara sugar

8 cloves

2 sticks cinnamon

Finely pared zest of 1 tangerine

110g (4oz) blanched almonds

Soak the fruit in the wine overnight. Next day add the sugar, spices and peel and simmer the fruit until it is tender. Discard the spices and peel. Put the fruit into a serving bowl and add the nuts. Reduce the wine syrup to about 450ml (1/2 pint) and strain it over the fruit and nuts. Chill well before serving.

THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS PUDDING

- Serves eight to ten
- 225g (8oz) muscatel raisins, stored
- 225g (8oz) currants
- 170g (6oz) fresh brown breadcrumbs
- 55g (2oz) blanched almonds, roughly chopped
- 55g (2oz) glacé cherries, quartered
- 55g (2oz) soft brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons finely grated orange zest
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 3 large eggs
- 150ml (1/4 pint) port
- 6 tablespoons brandy

This sweet-free and butter-free pudding keeps just as well as a conventional pudding and tastes every bit as good, if not better.

Put all the dry ingredients, the raisins, currants, breadcrumbs, nuts, cherries, sugar, orange zest and spices into a large bowl and mix thoroughly with your hands. In another bowl whisk the eggs, port and brandy. Pour the liquid over the dry ingredients and mix thoroughly.

Butter one large or two smaller pudding basins and turn the mixture into them, leaving room for the pudding to rise a little. Cover the bowls with buttered greaseproof paper and foil and tie these lids on very tightly with string. Water must not get into the puddings while they are cooking.

Stand each basin in a saucepan and pour in boiling water to come about half-way up its sides. Bring the water back to the boil, reduce the heat to a visible bubbling simmer, cover the pans and simmer the puddings for six hours regardless of their size. Even if you have doubled the quantities to make one huge pudding, six hours' cooking will still be enough. Check the water level every hour or so.

Cool the puddings, then remove their covering papers. Sprinkle a tablespoon more of brandy over them and re-cover them with unbuttered greaseproof paper and foil. Store the puddings in a cool place.

The whole idea of making Christmas puddings a few weeks or months in advance is that this allows time for rich ingredients to blend and mellow into mature flavours. There is, therefore, no point at all in storing them in a freezer which simply holds the pudding in the freshest possible state. The same principle applies to rich Christmas fruit cakes.

On Christmas Day steam the pudding for two hours. Turn it on to a heated serving plate and pour about two tablespoons of warm brandy over it. Light the alcohol and take to table with five brandy flames licking over the pudding.

● *Cakes and Characters* by Bridget Ann Henisch, an exhaustive history of the evolution of Christmas cake, is published by Prospect Books, £12.

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY



Season of goodwill and radical cheek

Leafing back through my recent entries, I see it is a while since I mentioned the Street Radical in any detail. Since the departure of Petronella for richer climes, I have been concentrating on the horrible Parvis Maitland, his family the Sub-Sloanes, and the philanthropic Jellybys. In terms of human interest, all three have limited shelf-lives, and it is high time to return to old topics.

To put it at its simplest, the Radical has become a masculist. His rationale, as far as I can gather from garbled accounts in the *Waterman's Arms*, runs as follows: since the emancipation of the middle-class woman and the resulting rise of the modern father's domestic input, the male is shouldering more and more of the domestic burden; if his wife (poor woman) had responded in equal measure by pulling in at least the fraction of a wage, then there would be equity.

Instead, so he says, all that has happened is that her leisure has been enhanced, while his has been impaired. His colleagues at the advertising agency are right behind him on this one, and a deal has been struck. Next week they are to change places for a day, he will look after the two boys, she will go into the office to learn at first hand about the sharp end of wage slavery.

The school party is hoping to recruit a new Santa. Parvis Maitland did it last year, but after his concert and auction for Ethiopia at the church hall a fortnight ago, he has temporarily withdrawn himself from public service. The better to maintain his scarce value, Miss Judd has approached the Street Radical in a bid to draw him back into the fold of the PTA; he has declined, with a written statement which reads: "I am unable to take an active part in a pagan festival which so clearly traduces the spirit of Christmas socialism."

Yesterday's lifestyle swap chee: Radicals has proved instructive for both parties, but if he has his way (which he usually does), the exercise will not be repeated. By piecing together the accounts of his neighbours, I gather that what happened went something like this.

The boys - known locally as Ian Botham and Henry Cooper - embarked on a programme of civil disobedience not two minutes after their mother, glowing with purpose, had sailed from the house. If I say they cut up rough, I mean it quite literally. They took a Stanley knife to the Amico and threatened to gouge it from wall

to wall unless he did exactly as they said. No sooner had he returned from the first school run than it was time to embark on the second, leaving little time for last night's washing up - let alone getting someone in to deal with the fridge which had again defrosted spontaneously, making everything inside go limp and droopy. Suddenly the Guardian leaders and Indian Test report receded into luxury items.

By tea-time, with the television blaring and the food being spread on the walls like a dirty protest, plus a mishap in Botham's pants, and four strange children brought back from school (very much as he does with his own colleagues), and the minute hand of the clock suddenly dropping a gear as it always does at such times, the Radical was approaching a state of clinical madness and emitting strangled swears at his absent wife (who, incidentally, was by this time into her second Martini with the lads) at the "office canteen," a very Sloane pub in Kensington Church Street.

By 8pm the situation was largely unchanged, except that the four strange children had left, believing themselves to be in danger from this unstable man, and the fifth Martini was being downed in WS.

Having at last wrestled the boys (one with his shoes still on) into the bunk bed, the Radical realized that he needed a drink, but could not - legally could not - leave the house. A sprint to the off-licence perhaps? No. What if his wife returned? It was about an hour later that he heard the key in the lock and saw her enter, mellow but crisp.

"I've been trapped," he started. "Trapped in this bloody..."

"Any food?" she said, unimpressed, and barged past him to the weeping fridge.

"Good day, dear?" She was keeping the initiative. Drunk, but not too much.

His silence was eloquent, as was the first moan of what was to become a major roar by the younger boy upstairs.

She opened the *Guardian* at the cricket and muttered: "Poor old Gower's not having much luck, is he?"

"You haven't asked me how I got on," she continued.

"Oh. Yes. And how did you get on?"

"Great. And you know what? You'll be delighted. They've offered me a job."

Clare Colvin meets Frances Donaldson, chronicler of the British Council, which is 50 today

Secret life of Britain's other foreign agents

The image of the British Council as an exporter of morris dancing to Tibet is being revised at last. And not before time, according to Frances Donaldson, who has spent three years delving into its history. Her book on the council's development is published today, the fiftieth anniversary of its first meeting.

Although she did not approach the subject completely cold - being married to Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge, Minister for the Arts in the Callaghan government - she was still surprised by the range of its work. Like most people in Britain, she had no idea that the council was involved in such diverse projects as inventing gadgets to speed up picking maize off cobs and research into why buffaloes in India die young.

"I had the impression that the council was specifically for

the promotion of the arts; but I have since seen that it has a very large educational role, and is also doing tremendous work in agriculture and medicine. It has lived in a state of uncertainty for the last 50 years, as each new foreign secretary has been convinced of its worth, but in a miraculous way it has not only survived, but has steadily grown in the estimation of its host countries. It is only in Britain that it is largely unknown and unappreciated."

Because the council's work is difficult to explain and the results often long term, it has always been a target in drives against public spending. Lady Donaldson feels strongly that the latest £1m cut for 1985-86 (with inflation abroad it is closer to £2m) could harm Britain's relations with other countries, particularly if overseas offices are closed.

"All the offices abroad employ a large number of the nationals of that country. The firm in India, for instance, employ 302 locals against 16 London-based staff. Closing an office means that the locally engaged staff must be paid off; the friends of Britain rejected. It involves a statement that the country concerned is no longer sufficiently important to us. It does so much damage that it would almost be better if the British Council had never been there in the first place."

Condensing 50 years of a vast and diffuse organization into 265 pages was an exhausting task and the paperwork was overwhelming. Whenever Lady Donaldson travelled abroad,

she took with her a suitcase of files. She visited council offices in Europe, India and China.

"As a biographer I found the early history, dealing with men of such powerful personalities such as its founders, Lord Lloyd and Rex Leeper, easier to write about than the endless government inquiries into the council in recent years", she said.

At her terraced home in Primrose Hill, north London, she is surrounded by bookcases of her favourite authors - Evelyn Waugh, P. G. Wodehouse, Muriel Spark, Graham Greene and Lawrence Sanders. She says she came late to writing, partly because of the inhibiting effect of her father, Frederick Lonsdale, the playwright. Lonsdale did not believe in the education of women or that anyone in his family, apart from himself, had a talent for writing.

"He was a very charming man, but extremely unreliable in temperament. He was tremendously anxious that we should not think we were talented just because he was."

Despite his lack of encouragement, it was Lonsdale who launched his daughter as a biographer. She had already written two books on her farming experiences during the war, which had become best-sellers, and he asked her, shortly before his death in 1954, to write his biography. This led to the authorized biography of P. G. Wodehouse, a memoir of Evelyn Waugh, and her biography of the Duke of Windsor.



Lady Donaldson: paperwork

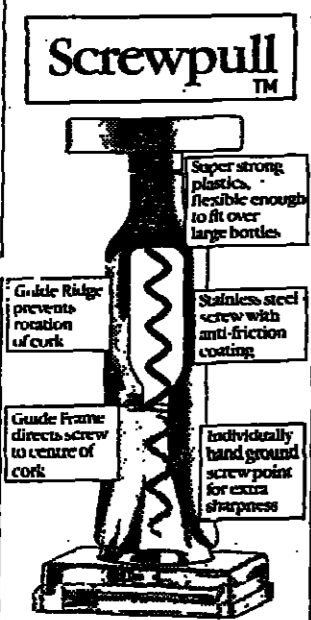
Edward VIII, which won the Wolfson History Award.

Lady Donaldson can be severe when she feels the subject merits it. In her book she calls Beaverbrook "one of

the few deliberately wicked men in British history", and recounts his 20-year campaign against the council when the leader pages of the *Daily Express* thundered against the "long-haired lads and lasses of the British Council".

"Only three years ago when I first began researching the book, however, I spoke to would inevitably bring up the subject of Beaverbrook's persecution. It permeated the British Council for many years and had a depressing effect."

The British Council: the first 50 years is published today by Jonathan Cape, price £16 and will be reviewed in *The Times* tomorrow.



Herbert Allen perfected the art of drawing corks - the gift can now be yours!

Herbert Allen, retired oil millionaire developed the SCREWpull cork puller to answer the need for a completely reliable cork puller. The result is acclaimed and patented the world over. Broken, crumbled and 'awkward-to-pull' corks are now things of the past.

"This, surely, is the ultimate corkscrew; the supremely simple, functional and elegant design."

1115 5th Ave, New York, NY 10020

FOR NAME, ADDRESS OF A NEW LEVER PULLER, SEE JENNIFER HOCKING, 75 BERNICK STREET, LONDON W1A 2AU. LARGEST BRANCH IN THE WORLD IS IN THE U.S.A. 1115 5th Ave, New York, NY 10020. RETAILERS: JOHN & ARNOLD, 1115 5th Ave, New York, NY 10020.

Jennifer Hocking & Co

Mix & Match Casual Clothes by post. Send for Your Free Brochure. P.O. Box 2AU, 75 BERNICK STREET, LONDON W1A 2AU. TEL: 01-439 8727

WHO sold more business micros in Europe last year than any other manufacturer bar Apple and IBM?

TA TRIUMPH ADLER

To find out how the world's second largest electronic typewriter manufacturer answers your business computing questions ring Kate Myles at Triumph Adler on 01-250 1717

TA: World Leaders in Office Communication

Punch

YOU'LL GET A KICK OUT OF TODAY'S

CHRISTMAS

NUMBER 65p

"Nice to see the unemployment figures drop just in time for Christmas."

Punch

THE TIMES DIARY

Following suit

The threat by chief whip Michael Cocks to take legal action against Labour's national executive has provoked a very grim and certain Labour quarters. They believe the investigation he is demanding into his constituency party may reveal more about his supporters' methods than those of the left who want him deselected. In 1982, the Bannister paper *Tribune* published details of a private meeting held at a Bristol hotel shortly before boundary changes pitted Cocks against Tony Benn for Bristol's one safe Labour seat. It was attended by right-wing trade union officials, and John Golding MP and NEC member. Golding who "expressed the need to protect Michael Cocks's (sic) back against the far left", outlined a plan to increase trade union representation on the management committee of constituencies where neither right nor left was dominant. The meeting suggested that trade unionists "could be offered the inducement of not actually becoming involved in the CLPs", but of simply registering and "only attending the annual meeting of the GMC or selection conference as necessary". Cocks beat Benn for the constituency nomination - helped by a sizeable trade union vote.

Christmas log

Tam Dalyell has received his first Christmas card. It bears the emblem of HMS Conqueror and is signed "With best wishes for Christmas and New Year from the president and members of the senior rates mess". The words "Proverbs 26:20" are written in the bottom corner. The verses in question read: "When the wood faileth the fire shall go out, and when the talebearer is taken away contentions shall cease."

Trimmed council

As Patrick Jenkins battles to defend his local government Bill in the Commons this week, he will be delighted to know that another perpetual thorn in his side, is apparently self-destructing. The majority on which Liverpool council depends to push through its promised illegal budget next year is fast evaporating. Yesterday morning Labour councillor Julian Clarke resigned over the council's appointment of a militant-sympathiser as relations officer. Opposition Liberals are certain they will seize his marginal ward in the by-election, as they did another Labour ward two weeks ago. Another Labour councillor has been off ill for many months, and five rebels who voted against Labour's illegal budget proposals last year can be expected to do the same again. That reduces Labour's original majority of 17 to just two. One more waverer in a council already 417m overspent this year and Jenkins - for once - will be laughing.

● In the *Literary Review* Francis Whelan calls Clive James's latest poetry "reassuring". Patricia House, in a lengthy attack in *The Magazine*, describes most of his recent work as "drivel". Such venom from two pundits in one month? Not really: "Miss House" is Francis Whelan's pen-name.

Extra duty

Islington Council may support the miners, but it is also making money from their dispute. For the use of a small room in the town hall it is charging striking Welsh miners on fundraising duties a sum believed to be almost £200 a week. "It's just ordinary, prudent, business-like practice," said a spokesman yesterday. It is not a practice adopted by other left-wing councils, however. Given Lambeth and Hackney have both miners' support groups office space - and are charging the pittance nothing.

BARRY FANTONI



"It makes a change from hitting the post"

Reprieve

Channel 4 has apparently succumbed to the threats to "publicly execute" chief executive Jeremy Isaacs made by enraged Derby Muslims after last year's screening of *The Blood of Hussain*, a film highly critical of Pakistan's military regime. To "redress the balance", commissioning editor Farrukh Dhadwy is to view five soap operas made by Pakistani television and will screen the best next year. A Pakistani soap opera with sub-titles is more than a match for Dallas, he assures me.

PHS

Less money, more incentives

by David Young

"The State, in organising security, should not stifle incentive, opportunity, responsibility, in establishing a national minimum. It should leave room and encouragement for voluntary action by each individual to provide more than that minimum for himself and his family."

Wise words indeed, but not mine. They were contained in a report commissioned by a previous minister without portfolio over 40 years ago. Sir William Beveridge was the author, and his report laid the foundation of the social security system. But what did he build on that foundation?

In 1949, the point at which a married man with two children began to pay income tax was twice his level of National Assistance. Today it is about the same as his supplementary benefit. Moreover, the supplementary benefit claimant who earns more than £4 a week has his benefit reduced pound for pound by the amount of his earnings - why should he bother, therefore, to take part-time or casual work or resist the temptation to earn more in the informal economy? If he can find full-time work, he may be no better off - in 1981 about 240,000 working families actually earned less than they could have received from supplementary benefit. Where now is incentive and responsibility?

It is not just the effect on the individual which should concern us. Spending on social

security is now about 30 per cent of all public spending - about £40bn next year. It has grown fivefold in real terms since Beveridge, and is still growing. The system has evolved in piecemeal fashion, compared with the clear objectives set by Beveridge.

We all believe that the truly disadvantaged should be safeguarded against want - one of Beveridge's "five giants on the road to reconstruction". The others were disease, ignorance, squalor and idleness. Most of us today would say that only the last remains a giant to be slain. This is where my unease about the system lies. We should aim to relieve genuine need and we should concentrate our resources to that end.

If social security payments can in any circumstances act as an obstacle to individual incentive and employment, then we have come a long way from Beveridge.

There has been some research to confirm most people's intuitive feeling that the level of benefit paid to young people can act as a disincentive. Beveridge was sure of it and said so: "For boys and girls there should ideally be no unconditional benefit at all; their enforced abstention from work should be made an occasion of further training."

I am not saying that supplementary benefit for a 16 or 17-year-old is a king's ransom. But if we can offer young people good training, and it must be good, or a job, and there are still very many jobs for young people, why offer anything else? Living off the state does not represent an ideal start in life for a youngster.

We need to change attitudes, especially among the young, about claiming benefits. We must make training and education more relevant to the needs of employment in tomorrow's world. We must learn from our competitors. We need to look critically at the systems we have evolved for national insurance and tax to see if they act as a deterrent to employment. We should also get back to the Beveridge view of cooperation between the state and the individual in social security. There must be room, and incentive, for people to help themselves and their families.

But above all else we must fan the flame of enterprise. In the past 20 years the fire nearly went out. It is now burning vigorously. Anything that the Government can do to help, it will. But the enterprise must be the people's.

Lord Young of Graffham is Minister without Portfolio. This is extracted from a speech given yesterday to the Building Employers' Federation.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Beware of the hydra that threatens liberty



Selling Militant papers: nothing like today's roaring bazaar

Trotsky was if not a communist. There are two dangers in the widely held view that these organizations do not matter and that all our attention should be directed to the CP. The first concerns the view that because what they believe is ridiculous, what they do must be no less so. The second lies in the assumption that because they spend much of their energy fighting one another they have none left for damaging our democratic system or institutions. Both are fallacious.

For many years, the CPGB not only claimed a monopoly in the totalitarianism of the left, but truly exercised one. There was a single Trotskyite organization, the Revolutionary Communist Party, but it had only a shadowy existence, and there was nothing like today's roaring bazaar of the fascist left. The CP's organization, too, was an exceptionally efficient instrument; the party's leaders were obeyed without question by the rank and file, and its control over its colonies, such as the electricians' union, a grip established and maintained by fraud, forgery, deceit, slander and mendacity, was complete.

As the CP grew sclerotic and its leaders corrupt, its influence waned. The ETU was prised from its grip (with no help from the TUC), its unswerving support for the Soviet Union ceased to have any wide-spread appeal, its daily paper, which was always bad, became unreadable even by the most faithful Stalinist huck. As for recruitment, it has dried up almost completely; the young *enrages* of the 1960s, for instance, who might have been drawn to it in the days of its vigour, regarded it with contempt and derision, and would no more have joined the CP

than they would the Band of Hope or the Chastity League.

Into the resulting vacuum there was sucked a gallimaufry of communist groups with all the bigotry, dishonesty and totalitarianism of the CP, together with a ruthlessness that the older body had lost. For a long time, the most effective of these was the Socialist Workers' Party, capable of such spectacular coups as creating virtually overnight a huge and brilliantly organized front organization like the "Anti-Nazi League". The SWP, though it has many more members (mind you, we are still talking of only a few thousand people), has been somewhat overshadowed lately by the tiny "Workers' Revolutionary Party", better known as Vanessa's Loomies, which has had its own successes, particularly with its newspaper. The International Marxist Group had a brief heyday in its turn, largely because of the extraordinary personality of Tariq Ali, who achieved the astounding feat of making tedious at brain-damage level hypocritically fascinating. Alas, Mr Ali broke one too many promises to return to Pakistan and carry on the fight there, and now he is too showporn to be interviewed on television even by Mr John Pilger. But by far the biggest and most successful of the non-CP communist groups is, of course, the Militant Tendency, which works within the Labour Party; it has defied the received wisdom in its direct assault on local authority Labour groups and parliamentary constituency parties, and in doing so had more success in a dozen years than the CP by its methods of working mostly through the unions and entirely through

infiltration, ever had in half a century.

Now where does that leave us? None of these organizations has much positive effect, any more than the CP did. But just as the CP's effect, though negative, was at times very considerable (I remain convinced that much of the postwar decline of Britain's motor-car industry, and still more that of shipbuilding and the docks, should be seen as triumphs for the CP's policy of damaging Britain wherever it could), so the effect of the SWP and the WRP is not to be discounted altogether. It takes somewhat different forms: the SWP, for instance, has frequently concentrated on causing public disorder, and its joy, inadequately disguised as mourning, at the death of Blair Peach, a ready-made martyr for the cause, was as repulsive as it was expected.

But all these people, though they may disagree with some of the CP's policies and despite all of its leading figures, are still communists. So are the members of the Militant Tendency, and in more ways than one. The CP's ultimate goal was to control the Labour Party through the trades unions. Militant's is to do the same through a combination of its influence in the unions (patchy and not yet very widespread), the Parliamentary Labour Party (many fellow-travellers round a nucleus of declared supporters) and the local authorities and constituency parties (very large and growing very fast - vide the future ex-MPs for Stepping, Brent, Greenwich and Manchester Exchange).

All this adds up to a formidable influence. The CP's dream of taking over the Labour Party was doomed from the start to be disappointed, but Militant's dream cannot be dismissed so easily. Its leaders have not made the CP's mistake of insisting on total control of the forces of totalitarianism, but make alliances and strike bargains wherever they can, just as Mr Livingstone of the GLC has managed to gather under his capacious umbrella a wide variety of groups and individuals who have only one thing in common - their determination to replace our democratic system by one that would ultimately be indistinguishable from that of Albania. The Militants, and to a lesser extent the SWP, are exceptions to the policy, which elsewhere among the non-CP communists rules unbroken, of practising mutual hate for their brothers in revolution: that indeed is why they are so successful, and why I said that the belief in the ineffectiveness of a movement so divided was a mistake, and categorized as equally misplaced the belief that views so extravagantly absurd in the eyes of the voters could never have any effect.

To ignore a danger is to increase it. I believe we should be much readier to classify as communists those groups whose inspiration is a totalitarian vision, whether inspired by Marx, Lenin, Stalin, Mao or none of these. A simple typographical device will be sufficient to make the still useful distinction between the CP and its rivals for the honour of ushering in that grim dawn: let us write Communist when we mean the CPGB, and communist when we mean the others. But the form is less important than the substance. And the substance is a recognition that the evils of both Communism and communism now come in a wide variety of wrappings, and the eternal vigilance of those who believe in liberty should now be directed more than ever to stripping off those plausibly decorated coverings and uncovering the reality inside.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1984

Only God knows

Philip Howard: new words and new meanings

person singular: "Through Jesus Christ who liveth and reigneth..." (third person singular). Fowler himself used the *Prayer Book*, with "which art", "who shewest", and scores of other examples, as overwhelming evidence that "who" is not a third-person word, but a word of whichever person is appropriate.

The revisers modernized the second person singular "est" into the modern third person singular inflexion "-s" throughout. So "O God who seest" becomes "O God who sees". You could say that this is ungrammatical, much like, "You comes here often, doesn't you?"

When you do say it, the modernizers reply: "In seeking to remove the more obvious archaisms, our first instinct was to do what ASB has done, and yet transform a 'Lord, who' clause into

a 'Lord, you' - petition into statement. But on reflection we concluded that this was banal, and presumptuous. In any case, we were told not to use 'you' of the Deity. So we had a choice between 'Lord, who make' (but 'who' is indistinguishable in number in English, unlike *qui, quae, quod*) or 'Lord, who makes' (with an implicit ellipsis - 'Lord, you are the one) who makes'. Classical construction would find this unacceptable, but it is acceptable in terms of evolving English usage."

To this the purists reply indignantly that to address somebody, particularly somebody as important as God, in the vocative, and then to use the verb in the third person singular is quite unacceptable even in terms of evolving English usage. The Almighty himself has not yet pronounced on the matter. Though I

think if I were at matins at Lampeter or glorious Llandaf, using the new *Prayer Book*, I might steal an apprehensive look at the vaulting when we came to the collect. We do not yet say, "You pudent, who thinks you know all about English grammar", or "Miss, you has written the wrong word on the board."

You could say that this is further evidence that the nice old distinctions of the relative pronoun are decaying fast, and that the younger generation do not know their "who" from their "whom" and do not care. You could say that scholarship, devotion, and relevance are more important than grammar. You could say (C. S. Lewis did say in his first *Letter to Malcolm*, deprecating frequent alterations to the liturgy): "The perfect church service would be one we were almost unaware of; our attention would have been on God". You could say that, although no doubt God is no pedant, and understands our imperfect mummings, you might as well get the grammar right when addressing him.

Robin Cook

A better way to spread the takings

I should have known better. It is not the first time I have witnessed a speech based on hours of diligent research and crafted with loving care, immortalized in print by a single incautious parenthesis.

Last week I addressed the Annual Convention of Community Business Scotland, an umbrella for the 40 young, community-owned companies and cooperatives which have sprouted across some of the most deprived neighbourhoods as a local response to economic dereliction.

In the course of a half-hour examination of the daunting scale of unemployment and poverty confronting such areas, I happened to mention the case of the bookmaker's shop in Easterhouse, the sprawling demoralized housing estate on the periphery of Glasgow. Despite the poverty of its surroundings, this enterprise proves the notion of a brisk cashflow and dreams off from the community and into the balance sheet of its nation-wide chain a plump sum estimated locally at half a million pounds a year. Why not, I asked rhetorically, a community-owned bookmakers so that at least the money was returned to the community through investment in jobs and support for local services?

Next day I woke to discover my passing reference had blossomed in the Scottish press into "MP Backs Community Bookies". I am left with a grim foreboding that my postbag this week will confirm that my countrymen are not ready for social ownership of gambling dens.

Yet now that I am backed into this corner, let me defiantly again ask, why not if we are serious about regenerating the Easterhouses of the country, how do we imagine that they will ever achieve self-sustaining growth so long as they are served solely by commercial enterprises, each of whom, from the bookie to the brewer, extract their profits for remittance to a national office, exploiting the council estate as though it were a sort of miniature Third World state?

Even those residents who are fortunate enough to hold a job are likely to find they are making regular contributions to superannuation funds which would never dream of investing where its members actually live. Indeed, at one level the pension funds have become a device for undermining what is left of regional policy by transforming corporate savings from the assisted areas into investment in the prosperous regions of the country.

The first stimulus to the mushrooming growth of community businesses has been the need to replace such extractive economies by genuine local economies with the opportunity for internal circulation of its income. The second is that it has uncomfortably dawned on those who have to grapple with the awesome social problems of areas where the local male unemployment rate may be over 40 per cent, that

there could be a general and prolonged rally in the national economy with little perceptible impact on the very communities which have been hit worst by recession.

Hence the sudden outbreak of commercial companies registered by community groups and attempting to influence the outcome of market forces at local level in order to compensate for Mrs Thatcher's refusal to do so in the national economy. In my own backyard, a community group in an area of severe unemployment has formed its own company to convert a derelict bakery for small workshops, and now wrestles with an embarrassing problem of success, having attracted applications from insipid local enterprises which outstrip the capacity of the workshops threshold.

By supplying the right work space and offering a range of common office services and support, they have provided the catalyst for new businesses formed by local people.

Appositely, the locals still boast that the generator in the basement of the old bakery provided the village with the first public street lighting in Scotland. Possibly the building now hosts a fresh innovation which will be equally imitated.

In tandem with this spread of community businesses, there has been a prodigious growth in worker cooperatives. Cooperatives are the fastest growing form of business organization in Britain, and one of the few in which new jobs are surfacing faster than old ones are going under. In the past two years the number of rebus about cooperatives in Britain has doubled, a geometric rate of progression which has enabled the Cooperative Development Agency to produce the speculative extrapolation that by the end of the century there will be a quarter of a million such units which will dominate the business sector. Moreover, the statistics reveal that the success rate for cooperatives is at least as good as for start-ups generally, and their proportion in manufacturing is actually much higher than the figure for conventional companies of similar size.

This fresh crop of workers' cooperatives, and its sister growth of community business, is proof of the attraction of the maxim that it is labour that should hire capital for its use, not capital that should harness labour for its ends.

These are trends which merit pondering in a week when the Government is preening itself on the wide ownership it has secured for British Telecom by converting it from being the property of over 50 million citizens to the assets of fewer than 2 million shareholders. At national level public ownership may be in retreat, but at the grassroots social forms of ownership have never been more popular.

The author is Labour MP for Livingston.

Digby Anderson

Permissive hosts must pay the bill

The party is over and the bills are coming in.

It is difficult to say exactly when the permissive sex party started. Was the first eager guest the Lady Chatterley trial at the end of the 1950s? Were things at full swing when the Church of England's 1966 report, *Putting Asunder*, recommended that "the doctrine of the breakdown of marriage should be comprehensively substituted for the doctrine of matrimonial offence as the basis of all divorce"?

It has certainly been a crowded party: the 1969 Divorce Act, the 1973 Matrimonial Causes Act, the legalization of adult homosexuality, easier, very much easier, abortions, increased hand-outs for that immoral conflation of the deserving and the undeserving, the "single parent family", contraceptive for children in defiance of their parents' wishes, activist education in sexual and "interpersonal" relations and now, leaning on the door bell, desperate to get in before the ideological plank runs out, experimentation with human embryos.

This last guest will have to clamber over a mounting pile of bills: AIDS, linked to promiscuous homosexuality; herpes and gonorrhoea both connected with increased promiscuity; breast and cervical cancer possibly by long-term use of the contraceptive pill, the latter also possibly linked with early sexual activity; and the growing problem, highlighted recently by the NSPCC, of the sexual abuse of children.

Some can be costed: divorce running at 147,000 a year, 1,100 per cent up on the pre-war figure and costing perhaps £1,000m a year in legal bills, social security, child care and medical expense. Almost 35,000 abortions for the first quarter of 1984. Extrapolated for the year, that is 139,656 foetuses aged up to 150 days, killed at perhaps £500 each. And while 1960s taxpayers had £15m spent for them, one-parent families, today's pay £1,000m.

It must immediately be said that the totals on the bills are disputed and, more important, some bills may be misaddressed. They are not all the straightforward results of permissiveness. Some can be read in a wholly opposite sense. Thus increased divorce has been offered as evidence of the health of marriage: partners having higher expectations of marriage repeatedly divorce and remarry in perfectionist pursuit of them.

It is also possible that emphasizing the awful consequences of the sexual revolution may not be a reaction against it but a vicarious development of it. Americans are

clearly enjoying discussing AIDS enormously. Sex and medicine combined in the scenario and imagery of a mediaeval plague!

But even when the most generous allowances are made, one conclusion remains: it is now up to the progressives to defend their revolution. It can no longer be taken for granted.

Cast into doubt are its essential assumptions: unlimited tolerance of different tastes; freedom for individuals to develop as long as they do not appear to be hurting others; and the dissolution of responsibility by reason. AIDS teaches that you cannot learn facts as yet unknown and that hurt to others may be indirect and unpredictable. The facts about cervical cancer remain stubbornly unknown, and the taxpayers' bill for lone parents merits a discussion exceeded in complexity only by those of abortion and embryo experimentation.

The old wisdom, displaced by progressive gospel, no longer looks quite so *passé*. Its adherents did not question everything but followed religious and social conventions even when these appeared arbitrary or senseless. They accepted that men were capable of considerable viciousness and needed rules which had stood the test of time rather than that of reason. Desires were repressed by inculcated habit and deterrence. Repression was not then decried as a bad thing. And a necessary corollary of the rules was the guilt, fear, scandal and stigma so denounced and derided by "rational" progressives. They do not appear so obviously ridiculous today.

With hindsight we can see the progressive reforms were not founded on facts and reason but very limited information and questionable assumptions. In short, they were experiments. It is crucial that they should be reassessed. Such evidence as we now have is not sufficient to condemn them but it is enough to shift the burden of proof.

It is no longer up to the sceptics to show that the permissive revolution was a mistake: it is for its increasingly beleaguered supporters to justify its continued incorporation in law and welfare provision. The bills are currently addressed to them.

The author is director of the Social Affairs Unit.

A collection of Digby Anderson's columns, *Extra Dry*, is published today by the Social Affairs Unit, 2 Lord North St, London SW1, price £2.95.

THE ARTS

John Drummond, former director of the Edinburgh Festival, was yesterday appointed to the hot seat of the BBC's Controller, Music - with wider potential powers than the man he succeeds next year, Robert Ponsonby: report and interview by Nicholas Kenyon

A chance to unite the warring tribes of sound and vision

John Drummond: "there's an enormous amount to be done"



Council. On the managerial problems of co-ordinating musical activities in the BBC he will say only that "there has been a very dangerous feeling of separation. In the Sixties I think we felt radio music producers had a contempt for what television was doing, and television producers thought the radio music people were involved in some kind of very private broadcasting. I think of all each side needs to understand each other better - they do, you know, in the regions, where the departments tend to be much closer together. Half the trouble in the BBC comes because departments are physically so far apart."

On the touchy subject of what kind of contemporary music Drummond is likely to support and promote at the BBC he is again cautious. He is reluctant to name names. But can one presume he would not follow a Great British Music Festival line? "I think you can presume that quite clearly. Of course one has loyalty to nations but one has a greater loyalty to the art one represents. I don't think I'm any more likely to be persuaded of the importance of certain secondary talents than my predecessors were." And are there still the causes to be fought for in this area that made William Glock's controllership such an exhilarating period? "First, because evidence has been given once of vitality and adventure it doesn't mean that it's never going to need to be given again. OK, it was thrilling to have Harewood do the Boulez year in Edinburgh, with *Pli selon pli*, and William do the first *Gruppen* in London, but don't kid me that there's no need for another *Pli selon pli* in London. In many ways one realizes how little advance there has actually been. There's an enormous amount to be done."

The BBC has appointed John Drummond, 50, director of the Edinburgh Festival from 1978 to 1983 and previously assistant Head of Music and Arts in BBC Television, to be its next Controller, Music, in succession to Robert Ponsonby. The appointment goes against Ponsonby's stated desire to be succeeded by "a musician from within radio", but follows the BBC's tradition of choosing for the controllership an outside figure of stature and flair, who will be capable of advancing the reputation of the Proms and public concerts as well as maintaining the BBC's delicate and often turbulent relationship with the musical profession.

Drummond is a television man, though he has broadcast often for radio as a freelance, and the most interesting aspect of his appointment is that he joins the BBC very soon, in February 1985, a full nine months before Ponsonby's retirement on December 1. He has been commissioned to produce a detailed report on the BBC's provision of music on both radio and television. This will be widely interpreted as an attempt to prove that the two departments of radio and television music, which have drifted far apart, can be brought together and co-ordinated under a single Controller.

Drummond's name had been canvassed as a probable Head of Music and Arts, Television, after the abrupt departure of Richard Somerset Ward earlier this year and, while it is highly unlikely that he would have accepted that post on its own (and BBC Television says it is proceeding with an appointment), the prospect of a major restructuring of television departments under Bill Cotton and Brian Wenham leaves open the possibility that Drummond's report could acquire for him

a newly coherent and newly expanded control of all the BBC's musical resources.

He may well also want to take back under his direct control the radio production departments concerned with music, which Aubrey Stager (in a last stab in the back to radio music before he returned to television) put into a Radio 3 music department. That could lead to lively conflict internally. And the final issue of the report could well be money: after the next licence fee increase, will the BBC have the means to support serious music in the way it demands?

Drummond is understandably saying nothing about these possibilities at present. But he does

defend himself from the accusation of not being a broadcaster. "As it happens, I have more broadcasting experience than either Robert or William Glock when they were appointed. I know there'll be criticism from some quarters, but I do think I know my way around the BBC and the business of broadcasting." Will he bring the priorities of television's musical coverage to music on radio? "What you mean things like intelligibility? Or not talking down to your audience? Or occasionally being relevant? Things like that? I do think that if you're in the business of communication you ought to consider this sort of thing. Of course in television it is harder to find the right tone of voice. One of

the things about streamed broadcasting is that you have sorted out who you are talking to. But that has its drawbacks too, in that you're not reaching out any further."

Drummond's mother was a lieder singer, and "there was always music around", but he read history at Cambridge. Ironically, Drummond turned down his first offer of a job "for \$600 a year (not rising) to work as an assistant to one Robert Ponsonby who was then director of the Edinburgh Festival, in order to join the BBC as a general trainee for £265 a year (rising slowly). I had my chance in Edinburgh, but fortunately that was later, after I had learnt a great deal." Through getting to know

Burton during a stint in Paris, Drummond became involved with the most creative group of television producers the BBC has had. In the halcyon days when there seemed to be both ideas and money to match: Drummond, Burton, Barrie Gavin and Walter Todd planned programmes, and Drummond made his name with documentaries such as that on the second Leeds Piano Competition in 1966.

When John Coltrane came to head the department, Drummond moved sideways into other arts programmes, pursuing other disciplines he talks about with quite as much passion and enthusiasm as music - especially dance and architecture (he produced *The Spirit*

of the Age) but he returned to music when Burton came back to the BBC and thence to Edinburgh. "It wasn't as sudden a step as some people thought. I was putting together about the same number of programmes a year, 175, but the difference was there was just one summer deadline and in Edinburgh the winter was thought of as the time when everything went wrong. That was difficult psychologically."

Drummond has been a good committee man as well as a creative figure, a necessary accomplishment at the BBC: since he resigned, exhausted like his predecessors, from Edinburgh he has been carrying out a major survey of dance provision in London for the Arts



L'illusion: Gérard Desarthe (left) as the braggart with Marc Delssert as Clindor

Paris theatre Majestic and magical

From our viewpoint, the Paris theatre may seem a firmly barricaded nationalist stronghold; but chauvinism is not the same suffocating thing as insularity, and least of all when it comes to allowing international access to its most sacred treasures. Can one imagine the RSC and the National Theatre simultaneously engaging two foreign directors to show us how to play Shakespeare? That is more or less what has happened in Paris, where the dominating events of the past month have been Giorgio Strehler's production of Corneille's *L'illusion* and this week's opening at the Comédie-Française of Racine's *Bérénice* directed by Klaus Michael Grüber - the first German ever to direct at the Comédie.

As a co-production with the Festival d'Automne, *Bérénice* appears in the course of a wide-ranging international programme. But the great new international landmark on the Paris scene is Strehler's Octon-based Théâtre de l'Europe. Now into its second year, this is a State-subsidized venture aiming to establish a coherent centre in Europe's theatrical Babel, by-passing the cultural tariff walls to draw the best European talents into the service of masterpieces that belong to all European citizens.

The whole enterprise represents a mighty advance in parallel to the route pioneered by Peter Brook at the Bouffes du Nord (where, alas, nothing is happening until the unveiling of Brook's *Mahabharata* next summer).

Strehler's present production has strong affinities with *The Tempest*, with which he launched the Octon regime last year. *L'illusion* is another testament to the healing powers of art, occupying a zone between theatre and magic, and dramatizing a fable of parental loss and reunion through the agency of a supernaturally gifted stage manager. Pridamant, a sorrowing father, comes in search of his runaway son to the magician, Alcandre, who obligingly conjures up a series of visions showing the son, Clindor, serving as a braggart captain, paying court to two girls, and then meeting his death in a duel. At which point Corneille springs his masterstroke, by

bringing all the characters back as a company of actors counting up the night's take; and old Pridamant's cry of bereavement changes to the hardly less anguished howl "Mon fils comédien!"

Unlike *The Tempest*, *L'illusion* dates from the beginning of its author's career and was written (in 1636) with the explicit propagandist intention of defending the theatre against powerful clerical opposition, as a morally beneficial public service. In that sense, the play restates the theatre's mandate, as Jonson did in the puppet scene of *Bartholomew Fair*. In another sense, it joins company with Calderón's *Life is a Dream* and other baroque works that exploit paradoxes of shadow and substance. In yet another, it is a robustly plotted and often uproariously funny comedy of intrigue, and altogether the last thing you would have expected from the author of *Le Cid*.

It is this basic entertainment element that has been sacrificed to Strehler's vision, which otherwise yields as beautiful a production as I have ever seen, and the comparisons that have been drawn between the Octon stage and Plato's cave.

Strehler's Milan-based team - Ezio Frigerio, Luisa Spinatelli and Fiorenzo Carpi - present a sequence of shimmering and dissolving stage pictures whose power derives as much from their moral discipline (they are expressing a truth which cannot be approached too closely) as from their simply decorative quality. Alcandre's grotto - a massive exercise in baroque geometry - opens up for the first vision like a camera shutter, revealing Clindor and his master silhouetted against an open sky to Monteverdi-like cadences, both reflected in a modern high-tech stage floor.

The lighting exceeds in sophistication anything since Svoboda, whose "mirror-screen" reappears on Strehler's stage in the form of atmospherically blurred backdrops that undergo positive and negative light reversals, also softly reflecting the actors in their wretched silks and jewel-encrusted flared coats, and finally throwing back an image of the applauding house as Clindor welcomes his father on to the

stage. Gérard Desarthe plays Alcandre as a priestly, black-gowned figure, bald as an egg, who then returns, unrecognizably transformed, as the braggart Matamore. You are thus encouraged to view him both as mage and as a theatrical *tabula rasa* - who then demonstrates the wisdom of his profession by assuming the most foolish character in the play. This majestic production departs for Italy in January, so intending British spectators should move fast.

Besides his attachments to the Berlin Schaubühne, Klaus Michael Grüber is a former Milan colleague of Strehler, which adds to one's stupefaction on stumbling out of his *Bérénice* (three hours, no interval). Approaching the piece with the most extreme reverence, he has well and truly wrung its neck. Upon a stage (by Gilles Aillaud) variously suggesting a pottery kiln and a gaudy Pompeian bath-house, Racine's principals arrive like sleep-walkers, and deliver the verse in a dead monotone and at a snail's pace that kills the rhythms, never mind the caesurae. Periodically they nuzzle into their confidantes' shoulders, or flop over a large boulder in the kiln area; adding no small comic point to lines like "J'ai couru chez la reine" or "Laissez-moi le temps de respirer".

There are moments when the text takes hold of Ludmila Mikael's *Bérénice*, and the stage briefly pulsates with desolate passion. But you have the impression that there will be a severe directorial note for every such lapse into vitality. Faced with this otherwise incomprehensible act of carnage I can only relate it to Grüber's past career as a director of Beckett. Beckett is often compared to Racine; and Grüber appears to have seized an occasion for repaying the compliment with a piece that could be described as Racine's *Endgame*. Nothing happens for five acts: within the first minutes we are told that it is all over. The fact that Racine's characters are alive, and that the piece offers a marvellously sustained corridor of dramatic poetry, evidently occurred less strongly to the director than to a rebellious audience.

Irving Wardle

The Human Voice Gate, Latchmere

Something of a relief, after *Orphée* last week, to come to a piece of Cocteau's that (to put it mildly) deals with real human emotions. Even if they only come from one human, the woman speaking, for an hour or so, on the telephone to her lover who has left her. That Susannah York at the Latchmere, while to this tremendous task bringing every resource for sustaining the tension and wringing the heart, fails to convince us there is someone on the other end of the line is not, I think, a fair criticism: this is essentially a monologue. But there are tantalizing clues to what the man felt, and herein lies the interpretation.

Miss York and her director, Simone Benmussa, believe it was a genuine affair, passionate

London theatre

but not permanent. "Sweet, not lasting", and that when she says "you are bright and you love me" ("tu es malade" in the original) she is not deluding herself. His prolonging of the conversation is not, as one occasionally suspects, just to see how much he can make her feel. At the beginning, though prostrate like a murdered woman - which indeed she is - she becomes, on receiving his first call, the sophisticated, attractive person he loved.

Cocteau calls her "a mediocre victim". But despite the unusually abstract setting - no bed, no walls, just white screens on which Miss York vertically luxuriates sometimes as though they were her lonely sheets - she is, in this actress's hands, a real person, intelligent and sensitive. Her world's boulevard qualities, her rich lawyer lover with a manservant, her pampered daily round of shopping and

dining out, almost ring false. So, indeed, do stagey directorial touches like running his gloves erotically down her body and the repeated mannerism of addressing the phone receiver face to face, as it were.

Miss York's mid-point breakdown, her lovely face becoming a grief-stricken mask before our eyes - is all the more terrifying for that. And, among the other calls on her virtuosity, this work is virtually a concerto for the left hand (the right usually holding the receiver), pleading, arguing, firmly insisting that she is all right before unhesitatingly describing her suicide attempt. Most memorably, she lets the phone ring three times before answering as if to savour the anticipation, the last time, she leaves it still longer, terrified to begin the dialogue that means the end.

Anthony Masters

Concert

Oslo PO/Yansons Barbican

Since Grieg founded and conducted the Oslo Philharmonic more than 100 years ago, it has burgeoned into one of the great orchestras of northern Europe. Recently under Otto Kameu (whose conducting we should experience far more often in London), and now under the direction of Mariss Yansons from Leningrad, its character has been strengthened and its stature confirmed.

The strings have a brilliance of ensemble which is no mere patina of unity, but one that springs from fully engaged energy. They can breathe with the piece, and now use the direction of Mariss Yansons from Leningrad, its character has been strengthened and its stature confirmed.

The woodwind and brass, too, take little for granted; they can gurgle like a fairground

organ if required, or form a hard, sharp rind on the outside edges of one of Shostakovich's lacerating string unions. They can, in short, do extreme things extremely well; and they can equally successfully sustain and reinvigorate broad musical argument.

Yansons, trained by Mravinsky, was in his element with the Shostakoviches. The opening of the piece spoke immediately of music smarting under the lashes of its idea. They dug their nails into its taut rhythmic pacing, and underpinned the Largo's occasional longeurs with cello playing of unusually distinctive character and tenacity. Where double entendre masquerades as single entendre in this work, extremity becomes, as it should, not only the means but the mode, and did so utterly convincingly.

However, such bombast sits ill in the lap of Grieg. Jens Harald Bratlie, a fine accompanist and chamber musician, curiously reduced himself to the role of mere orator in

London debuts The sense of duty

The piano duo team of the New Zealander Richard Mapp and the Canadian Jocelyn Abbott have a dutiful rather than an inspired approach to the repertoire. Stravinsky's two sets of "Easy Pieces" of 1915 and 1917 were crisply articulated, and Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* had some panache. However, treble parts were often hard-driven, with a consistently unpleasant tone in the climaxes of phrases. A much greater variety of sonority is needed to bring these works to life.

The Uruguayan pianist Carlos Cebro is an individualist whose approach to the instrument is primarily colouristic. His relaxed style in *Junio al Jagan* by Cluzeau Mortet provided some welcome sunny images for a wet evening, and Carlos Guerci's *Candome* was brought to life with exuberantly sharp and rhythmic passages.

The Attwood String Quartet is two years old, and is a vivacious ensemble. Perhaps the quartet's performance of Dvořák's "American" was a little too energized, the first violin tensely over-projecting his part (thus highlighting a number of slight lapses in intonation), but the overall effect was disciplined. Nevertheless, the second violin and viola were relegated to too great an extent, this distorting balance.

Aperto features two wind players, a soprano, Dorothy Cooper, and the pianist Victoria Locock; the two were also making individual debuts at their recent recital. Miss Cooper's voice has a pure

timbre, which was well suited to the plaintive ballad "La Belle Dame sans merci" by Stanford. However, her intonation was not always secure in passing notes. Myhill's "The Devil and the Ploughman" was a quintessentially different encore, but here Miss Cooper's enunciation and her low notes were a little tired. Miss Locock's accompaniments were always beautifully scaled, her tone colours ideally complementing James Dowser's first-rate flute playing.

South East Arts presented a recital by the four winners of the 1984 Young Musicians' Platform award and gave each a short programme. The clarinetist Anne Scolding conveyed the mysterious pathos of Weber's *Grand Duo concertante* with an almost exotic refinement; her pianissimo playing is ear-catching. The flautist Nicholas Vallis needed directly evocative music in which to shine, pan-pipes in Honnegger's *Danse de la chevre* creating an idyllic atmosphere.

Eva-Marie Alexanders's piano playing has a communicative singing tone, but melodies frequently sounded self-consciously expressive. Liszt's *Fuße de Obermann* needed more shape.

The soprano Tracey Chadwell's voice appears to be limited to one timbre, and she does not respect phrase endings. Two songs by Reger and Macanochy were more successful, and in the former's "Mei Buu" there was some charming characterization.

James

Methuen-Campbell

Television

Evidence of doubt

Crew members of two RUC Landrovers patrolling the Falls Road, Belfast, on the morning of July 8, 1981, told an inquest that the scene was one of riot with petrol bombs raining down on their vehicles, and beer barrels being rolled in front of them. The inquest was on Mrs Norah McCabe, 33-year-old mother of three, who was struck by a PVC bullet that morning and who died from her fearful head injuries the following day.

After seeing a video film taken by a French Canadian, Jean-Pierre Plouffe, at the time of the incident - which revealed neither petrol bombers, beer barrels nor gangs - the jury discounted the police evidence and found there was no legitimate target.

Last week the RUC, who had denied firing PVC bullets anywhere near the street in which Mrs McCabe was hit, agreed to pay her family substantial damages and admitted there was no evidence that she was other than an innocent person, but did not admit guilt. The Director of Public Prosecutions has said that no police are to be prosecuted.

The video was shown in Yorkshire's First Tuesday documentary programme last night. It showed the vehicles had free passage and that the leading vehicle swerved towards the street where Mrs McCabe was hit, a manoeuvre denied by the police at the inquest. The

sounds of shots being fired are recorded on the soundtrack.

Mr Plouffe said that at the time of the incident, which followed the death of the fourth hunger-striker, there were no petrol bombers in sight, just the usual stone-throwing and banging of dustbin lids. An eye-witness confirmed this testimony.

Since the incident, the officer in command of the patrol, Chief Supt James Crutchley, has been promoted to Assistant Chief Constable. Sir John Hermon, declined to appear on last night's programme to reply to what Mr McCabe called "another miscarriage of justice".

Stars of the Roller Skate Disco, on BBC1, was a morbid dramatic exercise by Michael Hastings, directed by Alan Parker. Its subject was teenage unemployment and it posited a situation where teenagers attend a state-provided skating rink where they are able to keep up their skills between describing vicious carrels on their state-provided skates and generally going nowhere.

Its chief character, played by Perry Benson, last seen circumnavigating the rink at night and bleeding to death from slashed wrists, was good but there was no message other than despair, and only the most clumsy genuflection towards Orwell's 1984.

Dennis Hackett

20 dying days to Christmas.



As you look forward to Christmas, spare a thought for thousands of old people in under-developed countries throughout the world. Living in poverty and suffering from the devastating effects of famine, drought and disease, they need your help desperately.

Your money will go where it's most urgently needed. So this Christmas put your sympathy into action by giving generously.

To: The Hon Treasurer, The Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Project 40219, FREEPOST, London EC1B 1BD. (no stamp needed)

I enclose my cheque/postal order for £

Name (Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms)

Address

Postcode

Help the Aged Christmas Appeal

Equities lose ground

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Nov 26. Dealings End, Dec 7. \S Contango Day, Dec 10. Settlement Day, Dec 17.
 \S Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

[illegible][illegible]

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G					
111	78	Alkerm Int	86	1.3	1.5
112	78	Alkerm Int	176	8.6	8.7
113	47	Am & Hilg	103	1.0	1.0
114	100	Barnhart	163	16.7	16.6
115	100	Barnhart	163	16.7	16.6
210	100	SPDC	163	16.7	16.6
211	100	SPDC	163	16.7	16.6
142	88	Do Nt	142	6.5	6.4
143	88	Do Nt	142	6.5	6.4
235	350	Carlson Center	293	8.8	8.5
123	82	Chy (Pharm)	221	7.1	6.8
124	82	Chy (Pharm)	221	7.1	6.8
111	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
112	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
113	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
114	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
115	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
116	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
117	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
118	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
119	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
120	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
121	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
122	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
123	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
124	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
125	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
126	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
127	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
128	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
129	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
130	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
131	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
132	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
133	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
134	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
135	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
136	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
137	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
138	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
139	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
140	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
141	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
142	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
143	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
144	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
145	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
146	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
147	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
148	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
149	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
150	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
151	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
152	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
153	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
154	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
155	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
156	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
157	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
158	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
159	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
160	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
161	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
162	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
163	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
164	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
165	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
166	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
167	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
168	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
169	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
170	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
171	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
172	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
173	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
174	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
175	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
176	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
177	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
178	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
179	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
180	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
181	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
182	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
183	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
184	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
185	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
186	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
187	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
188	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
189	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
190	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
191	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
192	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
193	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
194	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
195	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
196	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
197	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
198	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
199	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
200	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
201	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
202	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
203	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
204	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
205	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
206	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
207	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
208	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
209	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
210	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
211	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
212	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
213	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
214	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
215	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
216	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
217	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
218	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
219	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
220	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
221	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
222	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
223	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
224	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
225	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
226	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
227	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
228	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
229	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
230	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
231	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
232	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
233	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
234	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
235	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
236	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
237	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
238	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
239	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
240	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
241	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
242	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
243	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
244	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
245	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
246	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
247	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
248	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
249	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
250	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
251	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
252	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
253	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
254	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
255	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
256	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
257	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
258	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
259	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
260	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
261	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
262	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
263	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
264	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
265	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
266	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
267	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
268	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
269	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
270	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
271	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
272	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
273	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
274	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
275	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
276	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
277	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
278	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
279	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
280	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
281	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
282	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
283	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
284	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
285	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
286	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
287	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
288	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
289	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
290	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
291	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
292	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
293	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
294	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
295	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
296	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
297	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
298	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
299	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
300	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
301	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
302	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
303	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
304	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
305	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
306	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
307	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
308	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
309	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
310	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
311	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
312	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
313	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
314	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
315	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
316	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
317	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
318	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
319	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
320	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
321	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
322	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
323	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
324	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
325	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
326	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
327	111	Chy (Pharm)	122	1.1	1.1
328	1				

PROPERTY					
108	84	Alfred Lee	126	84	2.8
109	84	Apex	127	84	2.8
110	84	Barclay	128	84	2.8
111	84	Barclay	129	84	2.8
112	84	Barclay	130	84	2.8
113	84	Barclay	131	84	2.8
114	84	Barclay	132	84	2.8
115	84	Barclay	133	84	2.8
116	84	Barclay	134	84	2.8
117	84	Barclay	135	84	2.8
118	84	Barclay	136	84	2.8
119	84	Barclay	137	84	2.8
120	84	Barclay	138	84	2.8
121	84	Barclay	139	84	2.8
122	84	Barclay	140	84	2.8
123	84	Barclay	141	84	2.8
124	84	Barclay	142	84	2.8
125	84	Barclay	143	84	2.8
126	84	Barclay	144	84	2.8
127	84	Barclay	145	84	2.8
128	84	Barclay	146	84	2.8
129	84	Barclay	147	84	2.8
130	84	Barclay	148	84	2.8
131	84	Barclay	149	84	2.8
132	84	Barclay	150	84	2.8
133	84	Barclay	151	84	2.8
134	84	Barclay	152	84	2.8
135	84	Barclay	153	84	2.8
136	84	Barclay	154	84	2.8
137	84	Barclay	155	84	2.8
138	84	Barclay	156	84	2.8
139	84	Barclay	157	84	2.8
140	84	Barclay	158	84	2.8
141	84	Barclay	159	84	2.8
142	84	Barclay	160	84	2.8
143	84	Barclay	161	84	2.8
144	84	Barclay	162	84	2.8
145	84	Barclay	163	84	2.8
146	84	Barclay	164	84	2.8
147	84	Barclay	165	84	2.8
148	84	Barclay	166	84	2.8
149	84	Barclay	167	84	2.8
150	84	Barclay	168	84	2.8
151	84	Barclay	169	84	2.8
152	84	Barclay	170	84	2.8
153	84	Barclay	171	84	2.8
154	84	Barclay	172	84	2.8
155	84	Barclay	173	84	2.8
156	84	Barclay	174	84	2.8
157	84	Barclay	175	84	2.8
158	84	Barclay	176	84	2.8
159	84	Barclay	177	84	2.8
160	84	Barclay	178	84	2.8
161	84	Barclay	179	84	2.8
162	84	Barclay	180	84	2.8
163	84	Barclay	181	84	2.8
164	84	Barclay	182	84	2.8
165	84	Barclay	183	84	2.8
166	84	Barclay	184	84	2.8
167	84	Barclay	185	84	2.8
168	84	Barclay	186	84	2.8
169	84	Barclay	187	84	2.8
170	84	Barclay	188	84	2.8
171	84	Barclay	189	84	2.8
172	84	Barclay	190	84	2.8
173	84	Barclay	191	84	2.8
174	84	Barclay	192	84	2.8
175	84	Barclay	193	84	2.8
176	84	Barclay	194	84	2.8
177	84	Barclay	195	84	2.8
178	84	Barclay	196	84	2.8
179	84	Barclay	197	84	2.8
180	84	Barclay	198	84	2.8
181	84	Barclay	199	84	2.8
182	84	Barclay	200	84	2.8

[illegible]

153	444	Trinidad Park	158	..	143.3	7.9
154	185	St. Joseph's	159	..	143.7	8.1
155	410	Wichita	160	..	144.1	7.8
156	425	Wichita	161	..	144.5	7.9
157	420	Wichita	162	..	144.9	8.0
158	420	Wichita	163	..	145.3	8.0
159	141	West & City	164	..	145.7	8.7
SHIPPING						
236	186	Aspen & Park	238	..	12.1	7.3
237	185	St. Joseph's	239	..	8.3	5.4
238	144	Wichita	240	..	6.3	5.2
239	144	Wichita	241	..	6.3	5.2
240	144	Wichita	242	..	6.3	5.2
241	144	Wichita	243	..	6.3	5.2
242	144	Wichita	244	..	6.3	5.2
243	144	Wichita	245	..	6.3	5.2
244	144	Wichita	246	..	6.3	5.2
245	144	Wichita	247	..	6.3	5.2
246	144	Wichita	248	..	6.3	5.2
247	144	Wichita	249	..	6.3	5.2
248	144	Wichita	250	..	6.3	5.2
249	144	Wichita	251	..	6.3	5.2
250	144	Wichita	252	..	6.3	5.2
251	144	Wichita	253	..	6.3	5.2
252	144	Wichita	254	..	6.3	5.2
253	144	Wichita	255	..	6.3	5.2
254	144	Wichita	256	..	6.3	5.2
255	144	Wichita	257	..	6.3	5.2
256	144	Wichita	258	..	6.3	5.2
257	144	Wichita	259	..	6.3	5.2
258	144	Wichita	260	..	6.3	5.2
259	144	Wichita	261	..	6.3	5.2
260	144	Wichita	262	..	6.3	5.2
261	144	Wichita	263	..	6.3	5.2
262	144	Wichita	264	..	6.3	5.2
263	144	Wichita	265	..	6.3	5.2
264	144	Wichita	266	..	6.3	5.2
265	144	Wichita	267	..	6.3	5.2
266	144	Wichita	268	..	6.3	5.2
267	144	Wichita	269	..	6.3	5.2
268	144	Wichita	270	..	6.3	5.2
269	144	Wichita	271	..	6.3	5.2
270	144	Wichita	272	..	6.3	5.2
271	144	Wichita	273	..	6.3	5.2
272	144	Wichita	274	..	6.3	5.2
273	144	Wichita	275	..	6.3	5.2
274	144	Wichita	276	..	6.3	5.2
275	144	Wichita	277	..	6.3	5.2
276	144	Wichita	278	..	6.3	5.2
277	144	Wichita	279	..	6.3	5.2
278	144	Wichita	280	..	6.3	5.2
279	144	Wichita	281	..	6.3	5.2
280	144	Wichita	282	..	6.3	5.2
281	144	Wichita	283	..	6.3	5.2
282	144	Wichita	284	..	6.3	5.2
283	144	Wichita	285	..	6.3	5.2
284	144	Wichita	286	..	6.3	5.2
285	144	Wichita	287	..	6.3	5.2
286	144	Wichita	288	..	6.3	5.2
287	144	Wichita	289	..	6.3	5.2
288	144	Wichita	290	..	6.3	5.2
289	144	Wichita	291	..	6.3	5.2
290	144	Wichita	292	..	6.3	5.2
291	144	Wichita	293	..	6.3	5.2
292	144	Wichita	294	..	6.3	5.2
293	144	Wichita	295	..	6.3	5.2
294	144	Wichita	2			

SHOES AND LEATHER						
342	184	St. Joseph's	343	..	8.1	5.3
343	184	St. Joseph's	344	..	8.1	5.3
344	184	St. Joseph's	345	..	8.1	5.3
345	184	St. Joseph's	346	..	8.1	5.3
346	184	St. Joseph's	347	..	8.1	5.3
347	184	St. Joseph's	348	..	8.1	5.3
348	184	St. Joseph's	349	..	8.1	5.3
349	184	St. Joseph's	350	..	8.1	5.3
350	184	St. Joseph's	351	..	8.1	5.3
351	184	St. Joseph's	352	..	8.1	5.3
352	184	St. Joseph's	353	..	8.1	5.3
353	184	St. Joseph's	354	..	8.1	5.3
354	184	St. Joseph's	355	..	8.1	5.3
355	184	St. Joseph's	356	..	8.1	5.3
356	184	St. Joseph's	357	..	8.1	5.3
357	184	St. Joseph's	358	..	8.1	5.3
358	184	St. Joseph's	359	..	8.1	5.3
359	184	St. Joseph's	360	..	8.1	5.3
360	184	St. Joseph's	361	..	8.1	5.3
361	184	St. Joseph's	362	..	8.1	5.3
362	184	St. Joseph's	363	..	8.1	5.3
363	184	St. Joseph's	364	..	8.1	5.3
364	184	St. Joseph's	365	..	8.1	5.3
365	184	St. Joseph's	366	..	8.1	5.3
366	184	St. Joseph's	367	..	8.1	5.3
367	184	St. Joseph's	368	..	8.1	5.3
368	184	St. Joseph's	369	..	8.1	5.3
369	184	St. Joseph's	370	..	8.1	5.3
370	184	St. Joseph's	371	..	8.1	5.3
371	184	St. Joseph's	372	..	8.1	5.3
372	184	St. Joseph's	373	..	8.1	5.3
373	184	St. Joseph's	374	..	8.1	5.3
374	184	St. Joseph's	375	..	8.1	5.3
375	184	St. Joseph's	376	..	8.1	5.3
376	184	St. Joseph's	377	..	8.1	5.3
377	184	St. Joseph's	378	..	8.1	5.3
378	184	St. Joseph's	379	..	8.1	5.3
379	184	St. Joseph's	380	..	8.1	5.3
380	184	St. Joseph's	381	..	8.1	5.3
381	184	St. Joseph's	382	..	8.1	5.3
382	184	St. Joseph's	383	..	8.1	5.3
383	184	St. Joseph's	384	..	8.1	5.3
384	184	St. Joseph's	385	..	8.1	5.3
385	184	St. Joseph's	386	..	8.1	5.3
386	184	St. Joseph's	387	..	8.1	5.3
387	184	St. Joseph's	388	..	8.1	5.3
388	184	St. Joseph's	389	..	8.1	5.3
389	184	St. Joseph's	390	..	8.1	5.3
390	184	St. Joseph's	391	..	8.1	5.3
391	184	St. Joseph's	392	..	8.1	5.3
392	184	St. Joseph's	393	..	8.1	5.3
393	184	St. Joseph's	394	..	8.1	5.3
394	184	St. Joseph's	395	..	8.1	5.3
395	184	St. Joseph's	396	..	8.1	5.3
396	184	St. Joseph's	397	..	8.1	5.3
397	184	St. Joseph's	398	..	8.1	5.3
398	184	St. Joseph's	399	..	8.1	5.3
399	184	St. Joseph's	400	..	8.1	5.3

[illegible][illegible]

FINANCE AND
Executive Editor
Trafalgar
the gap left

Washington, D. C. (AP)—The Federal Reserve Board today said it would not raise the discount rate, but it would raise the reserve requirements for banks. The board said it would raise the reserve requirements for banks from 10 to 12 percent of deposits. The board said it would also raise the reserve requirements for banks from 10 to 12 percent of deposits. The board said it would also raise the reserve requirements for banks from 10 to 12 percent of deposits.

[illegible]

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Trafalgar seeks to fill the gap left by P&O

If ever a company was in search of an epoch-making takeover, it is Trafalgar House, the property, construction, shipping and energy group headed by Sir Nigel Brookes, a corporate strategist of rare perception. Yesterday, Sir Nigel ushered in a set of figures for the year to September 30 which showed profits 43 per cent higher at a record £113.2 million and an improvement of 33 per cent in earnings per share, including extraordinary items and profit-sharing scheme, to 30.1p a share. The dividend is 10p against 8.5p. Yet the market responded by reducing Trafalgar's share price from 320p, a 1984 peak, to 311p.

The reason for such apparent churlishness is not difficult to spot. The results rely heavily on a first contribution to profits of £31.3 million from oil and gas production. Without that, there would have been an increase of only £4 million.

Figures from the contracting and engineering division were well nigh unchanged, at £47.8 million, while the combined fruits of shipping, aviation and hotels were £1.9 million lower at £15.7 million. Part of that decline was due to the sale of three hotels, but Sir Nigel admitted that cargo shipping was at a low ebb. Talks now taking place with P & O with a view to improving the shipping lot of both groups are still at an early stage.

Understandably, much of the internal effort and external spending is going into oil and gas. Investment in this area is now earmarked at £100 million, about two-thirds of total capital expenditure. Sir Nigel and his vigorous chief executive, Mr Eric Parker, now fully emerged from Lord Matthews's shadow, have their sights on opportunities in the US as well as the ninth round of North Sea bidding. In another direction, they are eager to pick up more contracts from the Ministry of Defence, mainly for refitting submarines.

While this adds up to a lengthy agenda of effort, Trafalgar's decision not to press ahead with a bid off P & O, clearly leaves a strategic void, the depth of which the 1983-84 figures help to measure. About £10 million profit on the sale of P & O shares has been taken into extraordinary items, offset by a similar write-off against fruit-carrying vessels.

A re-energized Sir Nigel makes no secret of his wish to conquer new fields, although the timing of any big initiative is bound to be influenced by the course of the stock market. His view is that the market is near its high point for the foreseeable future, and he is prepared to wait for lower equity values to afford him the acquisitive opportunities he seeks.

He is, of course, assuming that Trafalgar's share price will suffer less at the hands of a bear market than would-be victims - not an assumption it would be sensible to challenge.

Waddington overplays a winning hand

This morning the shareholders of John Waddington, the games and packaging group, will have before them all the information they need make a decision on the contested 500p-a-share cash bid from Mr Robert Maxwell's British Printing and Communication Corporation. The price of the bid cannot be increased, it cannot be affected by the vagaries of the stock market, and it must close on December 13 unless it is successful.

The last piece in the jigsaw is the robust and vigorous defence from Waddington, accompanied by a buoyant set of half-yearly results. The document, printed in vivid hues of red and black, manages to make an enormous meal out of knocking

an opponent who is making a bona fide cash offer duly warranted as being within its resources.

The two areas of doubt cast by Waddington on BPCC are its "true" ownership and the scale of its borrowings. Yet Waddington's chairman, Mr Victor Watson, does not suggest that BPCC or its parent, Pergamon Group, are in danger of being unable to sustain their debts, or that Pergamon is ultimately controlled by anyone other than Mr Maxwell. Pergamon is subject to the usual inquiries by National Westminster Bank when the bank was arranging for Mr Maxwell to rescue BPCC in 1981. National Westminster is also Waddington's bank, and has been unable or unwilling to sustain Mr Watson's innuendoes, despite his requests. This has been an ill-judged campaign by Waddington, particularly in view of the fact that its own results speak more than any slur. They show that the company is on the way to topping even the best of Mr Maxwell's expectations, which took account of the extra money at the company's disposal from the recent £5 million rights issue.

The games division, based on the famous Monopoly, has surged ahead from £673,000 profits to a comparable £1.3 million, on turnover £2.3 million higher at £9.6 million. The company's other big success is thermoplastic packaging, the sort which rests in supermarket chillers and contains margarine, yoghurt and ice cream. This is the new growth sector in packaging, making a contribution of £1.9 million to Waddington against £1.3 million before. In toto, earnings per share in the half-year have gone up from 21.6p to 32.3p, making room for a leap in dividends from 7.5p to 12p.

The effect was to push the Waddington share price up by 23p to 528p, taking it once more out of BPCC's reach. The next eight days will be crucial, but given the implacable opposition of certain institutional shareholders in Waddington, the odds are against the ubiquitous Captain Maxwell. Rightly so.

Gold back from the brink

After staring into the abyss last week, gold has stepped back from the brink to trade yesterday at \$332 an ounce. But in the prevailing pessimism few are bold enough to declare that it will not fall over the edge to \$300 and below. The gold investment mania of the late 1970s and early 1980s seems an age away.

The peak of \$850 was undoubtedly exceptional, and the current price is much closer to the long-term trend. If it is correct that gold has roughly retained its real purchasing power over very long periods, then lower inflation and lower inflation expectations, should be accompanied by cheaper gold.

The obverse of the argument is the durability of the dollar. Gold emerged from its \$35 an ounce isolation after the United States suspended convertibility - the "gold window" - in 1968. Since then, weakness and negative interest rates have been replaced by high real interest rates and a huge American appetite for the world's savings.

Circumstances have changed, however, and it does not necessarily follow that when the dollar depreciates gold will benefit. The yen and mark are more widely held and there is a range of alternative financial instruments such as futures, options and interest-bearing accounts, spawned by the great inflation of the 1970s.

Court rejects Currys 'flimsy' case against Dixons bid

By Cliff Feltham

Dixons the electrical retailer, has won its battle to clinch control of Currys, its high street rival.

Dixons yesterday freed itself in the High Court in London from an injunction obtained by Currys on Friday to prevent it from declaring its £248 million takeover offer unconditional, and thereby giving it victory.

Mr Stanley Kalms, Dixons chairman, who had sat in court throughout the hearing, was described by one of his merchant bankers as "quite calm, but very pleased with the outcome".

Currys had protested that one of its shareholders, Scottish Amicable, had been prevented by Dixons' merchant bankers, Morgan Grenfell, from changing its mind and withdrawing acceptance of the bid in respect of small, 0.7 per cent, but crucial holding.

Mr Justice Vinelott, granting Dixons application to lift the injunction, described Currys' case as "flimsy" and "fanciful".

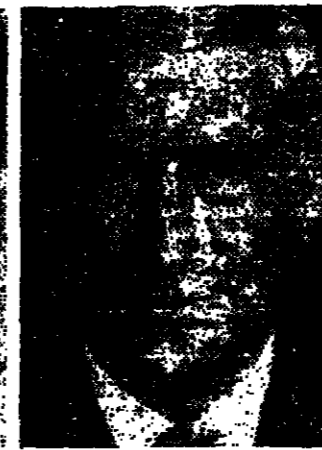
The judge described the



Terry Curry (left) and Stanley Kalms: talks with Panel Grenfell had prevented Scottish Amicable from changing its mind.

Dixons, however, claimed during the case that it had passed the 50 per cent threshold needed for control when it made its first announcement, and then again at 3pm last Friday when it announced increased acceptances giving it 51.4 per cent of Currys.

During the case Currys had raised the issue of whether



Terry Curry (left) and Stanley Kalms: talks with Panel Grenfell had prevented Scottish Amicable from changing its mind.

Dixons, however, claimed during the case that it had passed the 50 per cent threshold needed for control when it made its first announcement, and then again at 3pm last Friday when it announced increased acceptances giving it 51.4 per cent of Currys.

During the case Currys had raised the issue of whether

acceptances should be recognized if the owner was not on the share register - even if it was City practice to do so.

The judge ruled that Morgan Grenfell had been right to count in acceptances from shareholders which had been duly certified by Currys' registrars or the Stock Exchange even though the holder might not yet have been entered on the company's register of shareholders.

He said: "It would be absurd if the question of whether an acceptance could be counted or not should depend on the speed with which a clerk or computer operator carries out an administrative task of putting on the register a shareholding."

The High Court case marks the end of a two-month battle by Mr Terry Curry, Currys' joint managing director, to preserve the independence of his chain.

Last night both sides were seeing the Takeover Panel. The shares of both companies have been suspended on the Stock Exchange pending the outcome of the hearing.

Pound back over \$1.20

The pound rose nearly 1½ cents in London yesterday, closing at \$1.2080 as the dollar lost ground against all major currencies. Sterling was down by two pence at the London close, and the overall Sterling index was up only marginally from 74.5 to 74.7.

New figures for Britain's official reserves showed a rise of \$143 million in November, taking the total to \$15,496 million for Britain's gold and foreign exchange reserves. But after taking account of foreign currency borrowing and repayments, the underlying rise in the reserves during November is estimated to be only \$12 million.

RHM increase

Ranks Hovis McDougal, the milling, baking and food manufacturing group, has increased pre-tax profits for the year to September 1 to £51.1 million up from £44.1 million as the benefits of its three-year restructuring programme were felt. Turnover also increased to £1,179.9 million from £1,179.9 million. The final dividend is 2.75p making 4.35p for the year, against 3.97p last time.

Tempus, page 19

Argyll surge

Argyll Group, the food retailer which includes the Presto and Lipton chains, saw pretax profits rise from £18.2 million to £23.6 million in the half year to September 30. Turnover, excluding VAT increased to £769.6 million up from £697.6 million. The directors have proposed an increased interim dividend of 2.1p, against 1.75p last time.

Tempus, page 19

Hall profits

Matthew Hall, the contract engineer, reported pretax profits for the first nine months of this year up from £9.7 million to £10.5 million and is forecasting that the full year will produce profits of about £14 million, against £12.9 million last time. The interim dividend is going up from 1.275p to 1.35p.

Tempus, page 19

Bid withdrawn

Mr John Fletcher, the former Asda stores group managing director, yesterday withdrew his takeover bid for Cullens Stores, the ailing grocery and off-licence chain leaving the two remaining contestants, Mr Lew Cartier and Watling (105), a company formed by three former Imperial Group executives, to fight it out.

400 jobs to go as Cape pulls out of glass fibre

By Jeremy Warner

Cape Industries, the building products and automotive components group, is withdrawing from glass fibre insulation. It is closing one plant at Washington, County Durham, with the loss of 400 jobs and selling two more plants at Stirling in Central Scotland and Queensferry in North Wales to Pilkington Brothers.

Cape's finance director, Mr David Llewellyn, said the group had lost more than £1 million in the nine months to the end of September on its glass-wool operations and that the sale to Pilkington of at least a part of the business offered a way of salvaging some jobs.

An interim profits statement which the group is hoping to release to the Stock Exchange today, is expected to contain details of rationalization in other parts of the group.

Dealings in Cape shares were suspended on the stock market yesterday at 56p when Cape failed to put out the interim statement as scheduled. Mr Llewellyn said that the delay was caused by a "technical hitch".

Pilkington Brothers, which already has about 40 per cent of the fibre glass market in Britain, is paying Cape £8 million for the plants. Cape will have to write off £5 million due to the sale and make provision for the closure of the Washington factory.

Sir Gordon Borrie, the Director General of Fair Trading, has told Cape that he will not recommend referral of the transaction to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission despite the reduction in competition involved.

Mr Llewellyn said it appeared that the Office of Fair Trading accepted Cape's case that the sale was a piece of necessary rationalization.

Cape is 67 per cent owned by Charter Consolidated, the mining finance house involved in the rescue of Johnson Matthey plc, the banking and precious metals company. Cape said there was no question of Charter being involved in a second rescue.

However, Cape's evening statement came too late to prevent Charter Consolidated's share price falling 16p to 175p in after-hours trading on fears that Charter would be forced to rescue the company.

The glass fibre insulation business grew three-fold during the 1970s, encouraging the industry to believe that the growth would persist. But since 1979, the market has fallen by 20 per cent and the industry is operating at less than 50 per cent of capacity.

Cape Industries said last May that conditions in the insulation market were difficult with prices for materials remaining very low. But the company's hope that prices would improve failed to materialize.

Reagan plans heavy farm spending cuts

From Bailey Morris Washington

President Reagan has personally approved steep domestic and defence spending cuts which he plans to present to his cabinet today in a special session which White House aides described as "potentially stormy".

Mr Reagan tentatively approved a cut of up to 50 per cent in farm support programmes, a partial freeze defence spending, but his reductions still fell far short of his deficit-reduction goal.

Informed sources said, however, that progress on cutting the projected deficit in half to \$100 billion by 1985 had been made primarily because of the President's personal intervention in the process.

Unlike his other budgets, which have been rejected by Congress, Mr Reagan has for the first time conducted an item-by-item review of proposed cuts and tentatively approved many. This will make it difficult for Cabinet to fight the steep reductions, White House officials said.

As the budget meetings

continued, the administration released both good and bad economic news yesterday, showing another rise of 2.1 per cent in sales of new homes last month but the third consecutive five drop in new orders for factory goods which declined in October by 2.5 per cent of \$185 billion.

Concern over the economic slowdown has continued to grow in recent weeks to the point that pressure is now mounting on the US Federal Reserve board which acts as a central bank to ease monetary controls.

Mr John H. Makin, director of fiscal policies for the American Enterprise Institute, a conservative organization, with strong ties to the White House, said yesterday it was time for the Fed to loosen the credit reign and reaffirm its commitment to a 4 per cent growth in the money supply.

"The Fed has greatly increased the risk that the slowdown will become a recession", Mr Makin said.

£332m at half time for GEC

By Philip Robinson

GEC, Britain's largest electronics group, yesterday reported that pretax profits for the six months to the end of September had risen 16 per cent to £332 million on a turnover up 3 per cent to just more than £2.79 billion.

The group had two star performers: a 25 per cent increase in profits came from its electronic systems and components group and a 30 per cent rise on the amount it earned in interest from its infamous £1.63 billion cash mountain. The £84 million interest figure includes £11 million of adjustments.

The performance of the remainder of its seven divisions remained flat, although the telecommunications and business systems showed an 11 per cent gain to £40 million. Orders at the end of September had grown by 4 per cent since March and export orders climbed from £406 million to £640 million.

Profits from the group's principal activities increased from £218 million to £243 million.

Tempus, page 19

Polly Peck disappoints with £50.5m

By Our City Staff

Mr Asif Nadir disappointed the stock market yesterday with the profits of his Polly Peck (Holdings), Cornell Holdings and majority-owned Inter-City Investment Group.

Two years ago, Polly Peck shares could only go up. Yesterday, the shares dropped 14p to 227p as the group reported results for the year to the end of September.

Earlier this year, both Messer and Lasing & Cruickshank had been looking for pretax profits of between £60 million. The figures for the year to September 1 have come out at £50.5 million, still a 68 per cent increase on the previous year. Turnover has risen 63 per cent to £1.37 billion.

The figures include a full-year contribution from Mr Nadir's Wearwell group, which Polly Peck bought in the summer. Pretax profits here rose only 5 per cent to £5.6 million.

However, Cornell Holdings, the group which was left out of a promised three-way merger, reported a £92,000 loss. Inter-City, where Polly Peck now holds 30.12 per cent of the shares, has also passed a dividend payment on reporting a pretax loss of £325,000, for an unspecified financial period which ended on August 31 and is compared with one which ended on December 31, 1983.

Mr Nadir says Polly Peck must also be conservative in its dividend policy and is recommending a 2.5p final which, with the 1p interim, represents a 25 per cent increase in the total.

Insurance brokers merge

By Richard Thomson

Alexander and Alexander Services, the large United States insurance broker, yesterday announced its merger with the Canadian based broker, Reed Stenhouse Companies, in a deal worth about \$263 million (£219 million). The move is likely to make A and A the biggest insurance broking operation in the world, although Marsh & McLennan, with its other insurance interests, will remain a larger company.

The deal involves a recapitalization of Reed Stenhouse and an exchange offer by which shareholders will receive the equivalent of two A and A

shares for every three Reed Stenhouse shares. The exchange is based on the December 3 closing price of the Reed Stenhouse shares at \$15.83 (£13.20) each and A and A shares at \$23.87 (£19.9).

One reason for the merger was A and A's desire to extend the geographical spread of its retail broking business. The company is the largest retail broker in the United States but the merger with Reed Stenhouse, which has big retail broker in both Canada and Australia and Britain will give A and A a strong presence in other parts of the world.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS		MAIN PRICE CHANGES		CURRENCIES	
FT Ind Ord	917.5 (-7.4)	RISER:		London Close	
FT All Share	588.82 (-3.12)	Reed Stenhouse	£12.50 (+4%)	£ \$1.2080 up 1.35 cents	
FT-SE 100	1184.7 (+3.0)	Osceola	95-20	£ DM 3.7025 (-0.0225)	
Burgundy	25.884	Feedex Agr	30-4	£ Sfr 1.3675 (-0.05)	
Dataseam USM	106.27 (-0.22)	Garber Eng	80-8	£ FF 11.8275 (-0.05)	
New York		Windsor Res	18½-2½	£ Yen 297.75 (+1.25)	
Dow Jones	1185.28 (+2.87)	Humboldt	9-1	£ Index: 74.7 (+0.2)	
Tokyo		Gastner ord	90-10		
Nikkei Dow	11,577.44 (+63.86)	Gastner cap	90-10	New York (close)	
Hong Kong		Federated Housing	45-5	£ \$1.2110	
Hang Seng	1125.40 (+3.14)	Anglo Nordic	25½-2	£ DM 3.0587	
Amsterdam	179.0 (+0.8)	Sillfort	21½-1	£ Index: 142.2 (-1.1)	
Sidney: AO	737.7 (-2.4)	Humberside Elect	11-1		
Frankfurt		Carpath Int	25-2		
Commerzbank	1102.7 (+5.3)				
Brussels:		FALLS:			
Generale	157.96 (+0.56)	Associated Hotels	3½-1		
Paribas	181.8 (+0.4)	Wm Jacobs (hp)	2½-½		
Zurich		Hallwood Gp	83-11		
SKA General	315.90 (+1.00)	Cliffords Dry	1115-15		
		Sunrise	78-10		
		S Miller	47-2		
		CPU Computers	88-10		
		Fobel Int	37-3		
		Tiber Reasons	308-25		
		NBC Investment	12-1		
		Wm Boulton	5½-½		
		Applied Botanicals	5½-½		
London listing:					
am \$30.50 pm \$32.00					
close \$31.75-32.25 \$274.25					
274.75					
New York:					
Comex (latest) \$330.70					

WADDINGTONS KEEPS ITS PROMISES

INTERIM RESULTS FOR 6 MONTHS TO 29TH SEPTEMBER 1984

	£000	
Sales	£38,504	up 53%
Trading Profit	£3,310	up 64%
Profit before tax	£3,012	up 85%
Profit attributable to shareholders	£2,181	up 82%
Earnings per share	32.3p	up 50%

KEY POINTS

Plastic packaging is doing well

Business Forms is now a major part of the Company

Growth in postage stamp printing

Games performance is excellent in both the UK and North America

Interim dividend increased by 60% to 12p net per Ordinary Share

Exciting outlook for the future

REJECT BPCC OFFER - STAY WITH WADDINGTONS

John Waddington PLC

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Party time for insurance brokers

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Insurance brokers were riding high in the market yesterday alongside the merger announcement from Reed Steinhilber and Alexander and Alexander Services.

Of the seven other brokers listed on the main London market, five were trading at new share peaks. C E Heath jumped 27p to 548p, Minet Holdings gained 8p to 206p, Sedgwick Group sped 20p higher to 335p, Stewart Wrightson rose 25p to 485p and Willis Faber went 20p better to 548p.

Apart from the renewal of bid excitement in the sector, City men are also looking eagerly towards 1985 and 1986 earnings prospects.

Analysts at W Greenwell, the stockbroker, say: "There's a definite hardening of reinsurer premium rates following the withdrawal of capacity in the past year. The insurance market cycle is moving in favour of the London brokers".

And Laing & Cruikshank's analyst Mr Vernon Partridge

says: "The scene is much more encouraging for London brokers than it has been for years and years. It's a professional's market now, and that means London". On that basis of trading enthusiasm, chances of more takeover activity look like the icing on the cake for share prices.

Some analysts are sceptical of bid activity - most British brokers have the tie-ups they

Even before the Bank of England has stated its desired numbers in the new gilt market, traders are speculating that there will be room for just three inter-broker dealers to serve possibly a score of market makers. The figure appears small but under the US system, which Britain is about to adopt, there are only about half a dozen serving 39 market makers.

need with American firms, and vice versa - but Mr Philip Olsen, at Kitcat & Aitken,

suggests there is still a chance of further bids.

He says: "Given the coming growth in earnings for the sector, this could be the right time to get into the insurance market." Both Chloride, the leading US bank, and American Express have made known their desires in this area.

Which broker will be next - if, indeed, there will be more bids - is difficult to spot. Minet is tied up fairly securely with the American firm Corroon & Black, which has 20 per cent, and St Paul, which has 25.9 per cent. Willis Faber is virtually family controlled.

Away from this action, the stock market was suffering from hangover symptoms after Monday's British Telecom party.

Although trading was moderately active, prices were inclined to drift lower as still cash-rich institutional investors continued to contemplate their moves now that BT has absorbed much less of their cash than once expected.

But if the market generally was sluggish there was still considerable activity in BT. The shares were at one time 2p higher at 84p before closing 1p down at 83p.

Trading in BT options started yesterday and swamped the market. Activity was hectic with BT accounting for 23,000 contracts out of a market total of 26,000.

Cable and Wireless, which has been strong on the back of BT, ran into profit-taking, relinquishing 12p of its recent progress at 428p.

At the close, the FT-30 index, which now includes BT and National Westminster Bank instead of Bower Industries and the TI Group, was down 7.4 at 917.5 points.

The FT SE share index, where BT has ousted Johnson Matthey, closed 7.9 down from its 1183.8 point peak achieved in the BT celebration on Monday.

Sentiment was not helped by a succession of often good, occasionally disappointing, results from a clutch of leading companies.

Trafalgar House, profits up 43 per cent, fell 9p to 311p; General Electric Co. (16 per cent higher) lost 8p to 224p and Polly Peck (69 per cent up) eased 15p to 224p. But two food groups, Argill Group and Ranks Hovis McDougall, managed to produce profits which had not been discounted and recorded headway.

Oils were mostly lower although Osceola, with South American dreams, surged 20p to 95p.

James Latham, the Clapton, London, timber merchant, gained 18p to 283p. Figures are due next week.

The withdrawal of the St Pauls Stores bid, leaving just two contenders in the field, chipped Cullen's Stores, the A shares falling 20p to 350p.

Gilts were moderately lively,

at one time achieving gains of up to 2.74 on the back of firmer sterling. But in after-hours trading gains were trimmed back 2.5p to 2.54.

Banking shares also made a fine showing for much of the day. But late selling, in the case of Lloyds Bank, turned the rise into a fall on the day and sharply eroded the gains scored by the other three major lenders.

British Printing and Communications fell 2p to 168p on the issue of the John Waddington defence document. Waddington, weak lately, jumped 23p to 528p. The BPCC offer is 500p a share.

Among hi-technology engineers, British Aerospace dipped 7p to 368p, Flight Refuelling lost 7p to 297p and Lucas Industries, which recently reported better-than-expected full-year results, lost 6p to 277p in the generally dull market atmosphere.

Tobacco shares were also in the doldrums, with BAT Industries down 7p to 306p, Rothmans 5p lower at 167p and Imperial unchanged at the close at 173p, having been pennies down earlier.

Smith & Nephew, the medical supplies group, announces full-year figures week, and the

USM dealings in the shares of Rex Williams Leisure, which supplies pool and snooker tables to pubs, are due to start tomorrow. Margrets & Addenbrooke, East, Newton, the stockbroker, is placing the shares at 20p and, despite the problems of Riley Leisure (the shares have fallen from 139p to 39p this year), RFL should achieve at least a 25p opening price.

shares slipped 6p off their recent best levels to 219p.

There was also slippage for other companies in the pharmaceutical sector, with Glaxo Holdings 7p lower at 1055p and

Beecham Group 3p down at 378p.

Chemicals companies showed mixed fortunes yesterday, with shares such as Brent Chemicals, Coalite and Coates Brothers gaining pennies. But ICI eased 6p to 674p, and BOC Group, which reports figures on Thursday, lost 3p to 254p. Allied Colloids reports half-year profits on Thursday, and these shares were unchanged at 215p.

A rush of American companies to the London market is expected this month - before new EEC-inspired rules make a London listing more expensive and more difficult. Shares of Pihl Group, which manages company vehicle fleets and buys and sells houses for relocated executives, will make their debut today. Opening price should be about £20.

Beer shares were subdued ahead of tomorrow's figures from the Bass brewing group. Matthew Brown gained 2p to 226p on its profit improvement, announced on Monday, and Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries reporting next week, edged ahead 2p to 260p.

Alfred Freedy, the confectioner and tobacconist which also reports next week, remained firm, gaining 2p to 118p. Reliant Motor, interim results on Friday, fell 2p to 34p. BL was also dull, down 2p to 39p.

Midland support helped Carpets International, up 2p to 25p.

Glaxo Group dipped 12p to 180p and Matthew Hall fell 8p to 290p on profits disappointment. In textiles, David Dixon surrendered almost all the gain which immediately followed its profit announcement, relapsing to 126p, just 1p firmer.

On the USM lists, Body Shop International came in for some profit-taking, falling 20p to 455p. Britkat Group received similar attentions and lost 10p to 248p.

TEMPUS

Argyll shares climb as confidence grows

The Argyll Group has been building up a steady following in recent months and the shares have risen by more than 80p since full-year results were announced in June. Another 6p rise yesterday took the price to 236p as resistance to what many brokers see as one of the best bets in the food retailing sector was broken down further.

The main problem for Argyll has been to convince the City that it can do more than simply turn round badly managed businesses. The organic growth now being seen from the Presto chain should help its case.

Another reason for Argyll's discount to the sector has been its drinks division. A poor performance in the US, where dollar profits dropped, justifies some scepticism, but the group is confident about the second half and currency differences will provide welcome compensation.

Benefits from the Amos Hinton acquisition will not be seen until the next financial year but Argyll is still well placed to make about £51 million in the full year. The shares still look good value.

GEC

Lord Weinstock's GEC still looks a little lost. It ranks among Britain's top three companies, has the sort of cash most companies envy, but in terms of strategy, few can see which way it wants to jump.

In the summer it tried to spend some of the accumulated £1.5 billion on British Aerospace. The talks came to naught. At that time the share price was sliding along the floor in the low 160s and brokers were divided over whether to switch or hold.

By the end of September, cash in the bank and short-term investments had grown to £1.63 billion. The interest on that and currency adjustments

provided a quarter of the half-yearly pretax profits reported yesterday. A further third came from electronics systems and components. Seven other divisions made up the rest, most of them showing a rather flat performance.

Electronics showed an outstanding 25 per cent increase to £108 million. Overall, GEC's pre-tax figure came out 16 per cent higher at £332 million on a turnover barely changed at £2.8 billion.

The shares were unimpressed, despite a 17 per cent lift in the interim dividend to 1.35p. They eased 6p to 226p, not helped by a falling market. The price has performed much in line with the market since August, touching 236p at one point.

This year will be a good one for the group with full-year profits to next March up 12 per cent to around £750 million. But GEC looks fully valued at this price level and hitherto has had no real rival in the sector. British Telecom looks likely to become one and may this inspire some strategic life yet in GEC, whose market capitalization of more than £3 billion, is just more than half that of British Telecom.

RHM

After three years of rationalization, restructuring, divestment and general misery Ranks Hovis McDougall has at last been able to present some tangible evidence of the benefits of this sea change.

Yesterday's pretax profits of £51.1 million ahead of expectations, and to emphasize the new air of vitality at RHM the statement talked optimistically about the prospects for 1985 and - more surprisingly - 1986.

The total cost of the three-year programme, which includes a £40 million investment in bakeries, has been about £80 million. It has been

money well spent. The group now works from a much sounder financial base and has a portfolio of interests which are well placed to capitalize on improving market conditions.

Even the bakeries which have proved to be a drain on resources in the past are set to break even next year.

The figures failed to lift the share price significantly; it rose a mere 1.2p to 114.2p. The shares have had a good run and those who sold at a lower level are perhaps reluctant to come in again at this new price.

However, there is room for modest growth in the short term and there is great confidence about the longer term prospects. With talk of a bid for RHM never far away, the shares look attractive.

Matthew Hall

The relentless rise in the profits of Matthew Hall, the contract engineer, continues, despite the miners' dispute which will cost the group £750,000 this year and persistent losses in the United States.

In the first nine months of this year, pretax profits rose from £9.7 million to £10.3 million and the group is forecasting that the full year will map out at about £14 million, against £12.9 million last time.

With the group's cash mountain still hovering at about the £45 million mark and the current order book 10 per cent up on this time last year, it is small wonder that the shares are afforded such a generous rating compared with company's bigger if less successful competitors, John Brown and Davy Corporation.

If there is a worry, it is that the group may now feel the time is ripe for a big acquisition and this could cause some short-term weakness in the price.

The Scottish Metropolitan Property PLC

"Further Growth in Value of Property Portfolio."

Main points from the Report for the year ended 15th August, 1984, and the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. David Walton, CSU JP Hon FRCPs (Glasg.)

* Increase in Net Revenue from Properties to £7.1m (£6.8m).

* Dividend payment increased to 3.75p net per share (3.5p).

* Internal property valuation at 15th August 1984 amounted to £118.7m, producing a surplus of £7.87m.

* Net assets per Share have risen to 110p per share.

* New investment and development activity will continue in areas where full potential can be exploited.

Stock Exchange House, 69 St. George's Place, Glasgow G2 1BE.

BRITISH TELECOM SHARES

Buy or sell FREE OF COMMISSION
For dealing prices 9am-9pm
Telephone 01 409 0 409
RAVENDALE SECURITIES LIMITED

Matthew Hall

Public Limited Company
INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING DESIGNERS AND CONTRACTORS

Interim Report

Group results for the nine months to 30 September 1984

	9 months to 30 Sept 84 £000	30 Sept 83 £000	Year to 31 Dec 83 £000
Turnover	271,203	269,817	361,165
Profit on trading			
Mechanical and electrical	3,859	3,881	5,186
Oil, gas, chemical and mining	3,122	2,420	3,086
	6,986	6,301	8,272
Interest receivable (net)	3,553	3,377	4,590
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	10,539	9,678	12,862
Taxation charge for the period	(5,401)	(5,707)	(7,080)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	5,138	3,971	5,782
Outside shareholders' interests	1	(1)	(2)
Profit before extraordinary item	5,139	3,970	5,780
Extraordinary item - deferred taxation	-	-	(1,877)
Profit attributable to shareholders	5,139	3,970	3,903
Ordinary dividends	461	436	2,393
Earnings per share after taxation	15.03p	11.82p	16.91p

Note: The nine months' results for both years are unaudited. The results for the year 1983 shown above are an abridged version of the audited accounts of that year which have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies; the Report of the Auditors was unqualified.

Salient Points from the Interim Report to Shareholders

- Group pre-tax profit £10,539m, an increase of 9%.
- Good results from mechanical and electrical sector.
- Oil, gas and chemical UK and Dutch companies have achieved our expectations. Improvement seen in USA and Asia-Pacific. Mining in USA gradually improving but results affected by UK miners' strike.
- Despite keen competition pre-tax profit for full year expected to be around £14m.
- Interim dividend 1.35p per share.

Matthew Hall PLC

Matthew Hall House, 7 Baker Street, London W1M 1AB
Telephone: 01-635 9384 Telex: 229441

Ranks Hovis McDougall profits at £51 million

*Increased dividends *Earnings per share up

Final Dividend Increased

The profit for the financial year attributable to the members of the Company is £24.7 million. The directors recommend a final dividend of 2.756 pence per share on the Ordinary shares which represents an increase of 12.5 per cent over last year's final dividend. With the interim dividend already paid, dividends total 4.356 pence per share, absorbing £12,212,000. Together with the related tax credit at the rate of 30 per cent the total dividend is the equivalent of 5.223 pence per share for the year.

Profits increased by £7 million

The Group's profit before taxation for the financial year to 1 September 1984 was £51.1 million compared with £44.1 million for the previous year. External sales, excluding the agricultural division, increased from £1,180 million to £1,230 million.

The record profits were attributable to a general improvement in the results of most parts of the Group with good increases from our flour milling, packaged cake and grocery activities. British Bakeries, despite a very competitive market place, reported a further significant reduction in its trading loss. Trading profits in the United States were below those of the previous year whereas profits in the Pacific region showed further improvement.

Interest payable for the year was halved mainly as a result of the disposal of the agricultural division at the end of the previous financial year.

An encouraging outlook

The first results from the divestment and stringent rationalisation measures we have been taking over the last three years are reflected in the profits reported above, and I expect further significant improvements to show in 1985 and 1986.

Our profits to date are well ahead of last year and I expect the results for the half-year to confirm this improving trend.

P W J Reynolds, Chairman

Results in brief	1984	1983
External sales	£1,230m	£1,180m
Profit before taxation	£51.1m	£44.1m
Funds employed	£474m	£465m
Return on funds employed	13.1%	12.6%
Net tangible assets per Ordinary share	92.5p	90.2p
Earnings per Ordinary share	12.3p	10.9p
Dividends per Ordinary share	4.356p	3.974p

RHM

RANKS HOVIS MCDOUGALL PLC

The 1984 Annual Report will be available from 27 December. If you wish to have a copy please write to: The Secretary, Ranks Hovis McDougall PLC, P.O. Box 178, Alma Road, Windsor, Berks SL4 3ST

The General Electric Company plc Interim Report

1. The unaudited results for the six months ended 30th September 1984 are:

	6 months to 30th Sept. 1984 £ million	6 months to 30th Sept. 1983 £ million	Year to 31st March 1984 £ million
Profit before taxation	332	285	671
Estimated taxation	141	117	268
	191	168	403
Minority Interests	9	4	13
	182	164	390
Earnings per share	6.6p	6.0p	14.2p

2. The directors have declared an interim dividend on the Ordinary Shares of 1.35p (1983, 1.15p) per share payable on 19th March 1985 to shareholders on the register at the close of business on 14th February 1985. The cost of the interim dividend is £37 million (1983, £32 million).

3. Profits of the principal activities increased from £218 million to £243 million. This was achieved despite lower returns from a number of businesses affected by a reduction in demand or by other adverse factors. The order book at 30th September was 4 per cent higher than at 31st March 1984; orders received in the six months were 13 per cent higher than in the same period of the previous year, with export orders up from £406 million to £640 million.

4. Principal Activities

	Profit before Tax 1984 £m	1983 £m	Turnover 1984 £m	1983 £m
Electronic Systems and Components	108	86	864	716
Telecommunications and Business Systems	40	36	366	345
Automation and Control	19	22	221	205
Medical Equipment	14	13	230	205
Power Generation	26	23	297	294
Electrical Equipment	19	20	355	329
Consumer Products	11	12	135	133
Distribution and Trading	6	6	111	93
	243	218	2,579	2,320
Associated companies	11	14	184	206
Activities sold Subsidiaries	—	(1)	—	29
Associated companies	—	2	2	49
Other activities and items	(6)	(4)	29	23
Income receivable, less interest payable from loans, deposits and investments, including revaluation adjustments	84	56	—	—
	332	285	2,794	2,618

5. Interest receivable in 1984 of £84 million includes an adjustment of £11 million credit in respect of revaluation of the Company's holding of foreign currencies. There was no material adjustment in respect of the six months to 30th September 1983, but there was a credit of £14 million for the financial year to 31st March 1984.

6. Bank deposits, short-term investments and net balances with bankers amounted to £1,637 million at 30th September 1984 (£1,516 million at 31st March 1984).

7. (a) Territorial analysis of results of Principal Activities

	Profit before Tax 1984 £m	1983 £m	Turnover 1984 £m	1983 £m
United Kingdom	172	169	1,234	1,097
Rest of Europe	17	10	235	230
The Americas	43	25	564	452
Australasia	5	7	127	114
Asia	5	6	304	318
Africa	1	1	115	119
	243	218	2,579	2,320

(b) Sales to customers excluding inter-Group and associated companies

(c) Exports from the United Kingdom

	1984 £m	1983 £m
(b)	2,432	2,221
(c)	558	575

GEC

£6.4m electronics order placed

China navy buys British

By John Lawless

China has held talks with Britain about re-equipping its 2,400-ship navy with advanced systems. The commander of the country's naval forces, Mr Liu Huaqing, is known to have visited Britain for talks with both the Ministry of Defence and several military equipment suppliers.

Mr Liu is also thought to have held talks with other western nations, but the first British order has been placed.

Marconi Communications has a £6.4 million contract to supply a high-frequency communications system similar to that already in use with the United States, Dutch, Greek and Nigerian navies.

The size of the order belies the potential exports. The

Chinese navy is one of the largest in the world (with four times more personnel than the Royal Navy), but the standard of its hardware is said by observers to be well below that required of a modern fleet.

The system ordered is known as the NTC2, which is likely to be used in frigates, destroyers and in an onshore communications base. The original "naval tactical command" system was developed for smaller vessels.

It has been advanced by using a Scafox control system and by applying techniques used in the "integrated communications system", as fitted in all Royal Navy Type 22 frigates, the Invincible-type light aircraft carriers, Type 42

destroyers and other ships. The US Navy has placed a similar order to equip a new helicopter dock ship that is up to three times as large as the Invincibles.

The Marconi order is thought to be the first given by China to any western electronics company for naval equipment. Negotiations with other companies have been in progress for more than 18 months and the visit of an officer of Mr Liu Huaqing's seniority is an indication of the advanced stage of the talks.

Peking has almost certainly embarked on a long-term programme to upgrade its fleet, but it is thought to be mainly concerned to commission a sufficient number of advanced ships to protect its offshore oil explorations.

EEC and Japan close to video export accord

Tokyo (AP-Dow Jones) — Viscount Etsuhiro Davignon, vice-president of the Commission of European Communities, said that the European Economic Community and Japan may come to an agreement early next week on video tape recorder (VTR) export restraints for next year.

Viscount said the two have agreed to continue the talks into next week and not to make public particulars of the discussions.

Working-level talks between the EEC and Japan began Tokyo last week, but meetings between Viscount Davignon and Ms Keijiro Murata, Japan's Minister of International Trade and Industry, began on Monday.

The EEC believes the (vtr) market will be about 5 million units in 1985, while Japan claims demand will be around 6

million units. The two parties agreed last November to limit Japanese exports for 1984 to 3.95 million finished units plus 1.1 million semi-manufactured units.

Viscount Davignon also said: "We at the EEC have not been very successful at securing our exports (to Japan) increase". But he pointed out that bilateral ties have greatly improved from what used to be "a non-existent relationship", thanks to increased dialogue.

He said the biggest obstacles in the bilateral relations remain Japan's inadequate imports and distribution of goods, low investment in Europe and insufficient liberalization of its financial markets.

He said the time had come for Japan and the EC to break away from broad discussions of cooperation and talk about specific areas of friction.

Peking considers buying the Airbus

Paris (AP-Dow Jones) — The Airbus Industrie consortium stands a good chance of winning a Chinese order for three A310 Airbus commercial jets, Mr Jean Auroux, the French transport minister, said yesterday.

The Airbus talks are part of a broad drive by French companies to win contracts and boost trade in the transport sector, M Auroux said. The transfer of technology France to China will play an important role in this, he said.

M Auroux, who was commenting on his recent official visit to China, said talks between the Chinese and Airbus Industrie have reached a "detailed, technical" level that could lead to the manufacture in China of parts for the consortium's A320 medium-range aircraft.

Industry sources commented,

however, that such an agreement depends entirely on whether China's aviation industry has the technological capacity to produce components of sufficiently high quality.

Also under negotiation is the sale of "several dozen" ATR 42 commuter jets being built by France's Aerospatiale in association with the Italian company Aeritalia, M Auroux said. The consortium has indicated it is willing to give a substantial amount of work to China, including the manufacture of wing boxes.

Other deals being negotiated by French companies include a car plant in China for Peugeot, the export of the Renault 9 or another Renault model in kit form for assembly in China and an export order for 3,000 Talbot Horizon cars.

W German jobless trend falls for third month

Nuremberg (Reuters) — Unemployment in West Germany rose by almost 45,000 last month, but the underlying trend fell for the third month running, the labour office said yesterday.

The office said the jobless total rose to 2.19 million, or 8.8 per cent of the workforce, from 2.14 million or 8.6 per cent in October.

When adjusted for seasonal factors, however, unemployment fell to 2.26 million from

2.28 million the previous month. In November, 1983, the figure was 2.25 million.

The adjusted figure has fallen each month since August, when it was at 2.32 million.

Separately, the economics ministry announced in Bonn yesterday that industrial production rose a provisional 2.3 per cent in October after falling slightly in September. The figure was almost four per cent higher than in October last year.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9 1/2 %
Adam & Company	9 1/2 %
Barclays	9 1/2 %
BCCI	9 1/2 %
Citibank Savings	11 1/2 %
Consolidated Crds	9 1/2 %
Continental Trust	9 1/2 %
C. Hoare & Co	9 1/2 %
Lloyds Bank	9 1/2 %
Midland Bank	9 1/2 %
Nat Westminster	9 1/2 %
TSB	9 1/2 %
Williams & Glyn's	9 1/2 %
Citibank NA	9 1/2 %

1 Mortgage Base Rate.
* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6 1/2 %; £10,000 up to £50,000, 7 1/2 %; £50,000 and over, 8 %.

McKechie Brothers plc

Pre-tax profit increased 31%

Extract from the Chairman's Review:
"I am pleased to report a continued improvement in results from both our subsidiaries and our associates — pre-tax profits of £14.49m, 31% up on last year; a lower tax charge leading to profits after tax before extraordinary items up by 50%; comparable earnings per share increased from 13.6p to 17.3p per share — are all sources of satisfaction."

Dr J. M. Butler

Summary of results

	1984	1983
Year ended 31st July	£000	£000
Turnover	202,834	158,108
Profit before taxation	14,491	11,072
Ordinary dividend	4,380	4,163
Ordinary dividend per share	2.2765p	2.2765p
Earnings per share	17.3p	13.6p

Principal Activities:
McKechie Brothers plc is an industrial holding company with international operations serving a wide variety of manufacturing and consumer outlets.
In the United Kingdom the company is — one of the largest plastics processing groups supplying especially the electronics, telecommunications and transport industries.

a leading manufacturer of consumer goods for the home and garden.
— a major producer of copper based materials: extrusions, agrochemicals and powders.
In South Africa and New Zealand we have expanded and diversified to become principal sources of wrought non-ferrous metals, and Associates of the Group manufacture plumbers' brassware. In Australia the Group has interests in plastic packaging.

McKechie Brothers plc

Leighwood Road, Abkridge, Walsall WS8 8DS.

The Battle of the Blues

The Oxford/Cambridge Varsity Match is always eagerly awaited as one of the year's most stimulating contests, and once again Bowring's sponsorship brings this great event to Twickenham. Whose hands on The Bowring Bowl this time? Bowring's support reflects its own attitude towards business, with leadership in insurance and reinsurance underlined by team performance achieving clearly defined objectives.

C T Bowring & Co Limited
The Bowring Building, Tower Place, London EC3P 3BE
Tel: 01-283 3100 Telex: 882191
A member of Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.

THE VARSITY MATCH

TWICKENHAM
2.15pm Tuesday 11th December

Bowring

This advertisement complies with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange.

U.S. \$150,000,000

NEC Corporation

(Nippon Denki Kabushiki Kaisha)
(Incorporated with limited liability under the Commercial Code of Japan)

2 7/8 per cent. Convertible Bonds Due 2000

NEC

The following have agreed to subscribe or procure subscribers for the Bonds:

Credit Suisse First Boston Limited
Daiwa Europe Limited

Yamaichi International (Europe) Limited
Swiss Bank Corporation International Limited

Amro International Limited
Deutsche Bank Aktiengesellschaft
Kleinwort, Benson Limited
The Nikko Securities Co., (Europe) Ltd.
J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited
Sumitomo Finance International

Banque Nationale de Paris
IBJ International Limited
The National Commercial Bank (Saudi Arabia)
Nomura International Limited
Société Générale de Banque S.A.
Union Bank of Switzerland (Securities) Limited

The issue price of the Bonds is 100 per cent. The Bonds have been admitted to the Official List by the Council of The Stock Exchange, subject only to the issue of the temporary Global Bond.
Interest is payable semi-annually in arrear on 31st March and 30th September, the first payment being made on 31st March, 1985.

Full particulars of the Bonds are available in the Extel Statistical Service and may be obtained during usual business hours up to and including 19th December, 1984 from:

Credit Suisse First Boston Limited,
22 Bishopsgate,
London EC2N 4BQ

Vickers da Costa (UK) Ltd.,
Regis House,
King William Street,
London EC4R 9AR

5th December, 1984

Publications officer for
the Society.

La crème de la crème

Financial Management to £14,000
Substantial book-keeping experience is a pre-requisite for this fast-expanding group of companies but your contribution will involve financial management and budgeting as well as the monthly accounts. This opening is for someone with a professional approach and the desire to get their career moving in an upward direction. Age: 28-35.

Tough at the Top c£12,000
This international cosmetics company based in Mayfair offers an outstanding opportunity to a totally dedicated PA. Your first priority is to convince us of your ability to cope with a heavy typing load as well as having all the talents that come with your top notch experience. The rewards speak for themselves. Age: 27-40. Skills: 100/60 Audio.

Co-ordinator Extraordinaire £9,000
Join this company at the early stages and you can carve yourself a career in management consultancy. Flexibility, initiative and the knowledge that you are a self-starter will stand you in good stead while you co-ordinate consultants in the field and provide a secretarial support back at base. Age: 24-32. Skills: 90/60, WP.

Springboard £6,000 + bonus
This young, lively, firm of consultants based in magnificent Mayfair offices, offers a bright college leaver a position which is varied and fun. You will love the people contact and taking an active role in this busy organisation. Skills: 80/40. Age: 18-23.

HAZELL-STATION ASSOCIATES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
8 Golden Square, London W1 01-439 6021

Online Conferences is Europe's leading organiser of conferences and exhibitions on the business applications of high technology. We are growing rapidly with major events scheduled in London, Amsterdam, Geneva, Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington, New York and Singapore.

We are looking for additional staff who enjoy working in a stimulating but demanding environment organising some of the world's most prestigious conferences and exhibitions.

Conference Co-ordinator

This is a key position with responsibility for the co-ordination and meticulous administration of a number of conferences within our programme of events in UK, Europe and Singapore.

Good secretarial skills, together with the maturity, poise and confidence to deal with people at all levels are essential. Commitment and a desire to be really involved will be rewarded with real job satisfaction where the end result is a prestigious event involving you on-site, an excellent salary and annual profit related bonus.

Online's modern offices are based in Pinner Green with ample staff parking space.
If you are interested, please send your C.V. to: Rosemary Whitson, Personnel Director.

Online Conferences Ltd
Pinner Green House
Ash Hill Drive, Pinner
Middlesex HA5 2AE

PA ENTREPRENEUR £5,500
Assisting a brilliantly successful businessman in a new venture, this will be a demanding role for an intelligent, exceptional person capable of wearing several hats who can anticipate needs, make decisions and become closely involved in every aspect of his business.

EXECUTIVE PA £11,500
We are currently recruiting for a top American Mayfair based company in the field of new technology, a multi-step PA to help launch their expansion programme in Europe. Varied position ranging from marketing, training and sales. Salary £11,500 to £11,500. Excellent skills. Age 25-30.

Handle Recruitment
Secretarial Consultants in the communication and commercial fields.
2nd Floor 10 New Bond Street
London W1
Telephone 01-493 1884

PR Dept £9,000
A major international trading organisation requires a start, well organised secretary to work for their PR Adviser. Duties include liaising with photographers, printers, photo libraries, obtaining information from subsidiary companies for their house newspaper and general press releases plus developing and maintaining data in information banks. There is some secretarial and PA work. The position will appeal to those who want to develop their experience within the world of communications. 80/50 wpm, age 25-30 years.

499 9175 MacBlain NASH
Recruitment Consultants
16 Hanover Square London W1

INTERESTED IN ADMIN £2,500
Based in the heart of the City, a well established investment company seeks a PA to their Administration Officer. He needs a good organisational and administrative ability to co-ordinate all company administration and at a later stage develop a PA role. Lots of variety, stimulating and good prospects. Own office and a free lunch. 80/50 wpm.

TV FOR BREAKFAST £5,000
A famous TV company closely connected to the world of television seeks a Secretary to a Director. The ability to work on your own initiative is crucial and there will be a great deal of administrative work. You will be responsible for organising meetings and conferences and liaising with the Director. If you are seeking involvement and responsibility in a fast moving environment, this is the job for you. Benefits include 5 weeks holiday, 100/50 wpm and an excellent salary. Please telephone 01-236 3712 City 01-499 8070 West End Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants

GRADUATE ADMINISTRATOR £5,500
A major international service organisation based in Central London requires a bright, energetic graduate with formal work experience who is capable of understanding, organising and planning in a fast moving people orientated environment. This position will appeal to those who are ambitious, enthusiastic, are good communicators and who like people and pressure. Age 22-30 years. Excellent benefits and working conditions.

499 9175 MacBlain NASH
Recruitment Consultants
16 Hanover Square London W1 (3 minutes Oxford Circus)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY EC3
circa £9,000 per annum
Small international merchant bank requires efficient, experienced, with sense of humour to work at director level, with one other Sec in busy office. Opportunity for complete involvement. WP, excellent prospects. 24-4 weeks bank, Bonus, season ticket loan.

Phone Claire Sash 480 5190
TAKE CONTROL TO £10,000-W1
An international finance company of people in support of a major project is seeking a person to run all aspects of the office. This involves lots of responsibility, initiative, and a special interest in the financial world. The position is a real challenge, especially with Head Office in San Francisco, Ireland and other branches as well as reception, invoicing, VAT returns, etc. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants
23 Regent Street, W1

INTERIOR DECORATING DESIGNING ADVERTISING ESTATE AGENTS STOCK BROKING

We are a small recruitment agency with fantastic jobs and are looking for people who want to get really involved in a job they love.

Whether you are arts orientated or numerate, have s/h or not, we will find the job which is just right for you. But we do need you to have good typing and to be well spoken.

This is a rare opportunity as we usually find our candidates through word of mouth!

SALARIES: £6,000 - £10,000
Age 17-30

Please call T M International Ltd
50 Hans Crescent,
London SW7
Telephone 01-581 1805

Director Level Secretary

Wandsworth wants you!
£8,382-£9,087 (pay award pending)

We need a first class secretary for this new post, who will assist in providing secretarial support for our Administrative Directorate. The Council provides many services for the people living and working within Wandsworth, London's second largest Borough. The Administrative Directorate is concerned at the highest level with the efficient functioning of this complex organisation. You will need to be an excellent, experienced secretary who is used to dealing with people, able to be flexible in your way of working and of course have good accurate typing and enjoy audio work more than shorthand.

We think you may live locally and be able to take advantage of easy travelling. Working hours will be by agreement, but the normal requirement is likely to be 10am-6pm. Application forms from Administration Department, Town Hall, London SW18 2PU. Tel: 01-871 8052. Closes 21 December 1984.

Wandsworth
an equal opportunity employer
All applicants are considered on the basis of their ability for the job irrespective of race, sex, marital status.

PERSONAL SECRETARY

To undertake a varied range of duties for the Consultant Neurosurgeon in the Department of Neurological Surgery and to provide secretarial services in the Neuro-oncology section of the Department of Neurological Surgery. You should be a qualified medical secretary with experience and proficiency in audio typing. Preferred age range 22-40. Word Processor experience would be useful.

Salary is in the range of £5867-£7807 (includes London Weighting Allowance of £1042) and proficiency allowances of up to £340 per annum for recognised secretarial qualifications. Interest free annual season ticket loan scheme.

For an application form and job description please contact the Personnel Department, The National Hospitals for Nervous Diseases, Queen Square, London WC1N 3BG. Telephone 01-587 3511 ex 55.

The National Hospitals For Nervous Diseases

Ask Alfred Marks

BOOK KEEPER/PA, £9,000
International manufacturing company requires a competent, communicative person for their small office in Putney. If you are adaptable, enjoy client contact and meeting leading level appointments, this excellent position could be yours.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT, £7,800
If you have experience in a general engineering environment and are looking for an interesting and varied position in the Putney area, this job could be for you. You must be able to liaise at all levels and perform all the clerical and administrative functions in an extremely busy engineering office. Interviews immediately. For a details on these or our many other excellent positions contact Tracey Bourne or Linda Pinyan on 01-493 8070.

ENTER THE EUROBOND WORLD
Do you have sound commercial knowledge of German and French combined with good secretarial skills? You need to be early 20s, healthy, willing to turn your hand to anything and want to be part of a close team. Your rewards will be £10,000 plus generous bonus. Superb office near Liverpool Street.

PHONE 588 3535
Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

PUBLIC RELATIONS, W2 TO £7,000
Looking for your second job? We need an intelligent, energetic, and motivated secretary with organising, planning, and a sense of humour to join our team in a busy office. This involves lots of responsibility, initiative, and a special interest in the financial world. The position is a real challenge, especially with Head Office in San Francisco, Ireland and other branches as well as reception, invoicing, VAT returns, etc. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player.

DRAKE
YOUR 2ND JOB IN DESIGN
Your "side bit" of working experience could open the door to the world of design. This prestigious company design corporate identities for world famous names. Your rusty shorthand and WP knowledge will allow you to be truly part of the Super Dynamic Design. Find out more and call.

NAME OSTROWSKI
01-730 5148

SPANISH VILLA £12,000+
Selling superb superior property in a quiet area of the Costa del Sol. The villa is a real challenge, especially with Head Office in San Francisco, Ireland and other branches as well as reception, invoicing, VAT returns, etc. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player.

DRAKE
AUDIO/SHORTHAND Conveyancing Secretary £8,000+
Partner requires a Secretary with Conveyancing experience. Very friendly Company near Oxford Circus Tube.

Please contact:
FOM/AM
734 0034

TRAVEL £7,000
Rapidly expanding company is seeking a Secretary to assist in the running of the company. The position is a real challenge, especially with Head Office in San Francisco, Ireland and other branches as well as reception, invoicing, VAT returns, etc. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player.

TRAVEL £7,000
Rapidly expanding company is seeking a Secretary to assist in the running of the company. The position is a real challenge, especially with Head Office in San Francisco, Ireland and other branches as well as reception, invoicing, VAT returns, etc. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player.

TRAVEL £7,000
Rapidly expanding company is seeking a Secretary to assist in the running of the company. The position is a real challenge, especially with Head Office in San Francisco, Ireland and other branches as well as reception, invoicing, VAT returns, etc. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player.

TRAVEL £7,000
Rapidly expanding company is seeking a Secretary to assist in the running of the company. The position is a real challenge, especially with Head Office in San Francisco, Ireland and other branches as well as reception, invoicing, VAT returns, etc. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player.

TRAVEL £7,000
Rapidly expanding company is seeking a Secretary to assist in the running of the company. The position is a real challenge, especially with Head Office in San Francisco, Ireland and other branches as well as reception, invoicing, VAT returns, etc. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player.

TRAVEL £7,000
Rapidly expanding company is seeking a Secretary to assist in the running of the company. The position is a real challenge, especially with Head Office in San Francisco, Ireland and other branches as well as reception, invoicing, VAT returns, etc. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player.

TRAVEL £7,000
Rapidly expanding company is seeking a Secretary to assist in the running of the company. The position is a real challenge, especially with Head Office in San Francisco, Ireland and other branches as well as reception, invoicing, VAT returns, etc. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player.

TRAVEL £7,000
Rapidly expanding company is seeking a Secretary to assist in the running of the company. The position is a real challenge, especially with Head Office in San Francisco, Ireland and other branches as well as reception, invoicing, VAT returns, etc. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player.

New year - new career

GIN & TONIC SEC £9,500
Confidence, coupled with social poise, a flair for organisation. Excellent s/h. Old English co. Age 25/32.

ONE MAN & HIS DOG £9,800
A dynamic, international East urgently needs a capable PA. Good s/h, fluent French and German. Small UK office of large US Corp. Age 25/32.

GRADUATE TRAINEE £5,000
Genuine career opp to expand, initiative, with an exciting mind, in room for a challenging, worthwhile career. Good telephone manner, previous research exp. Basic sec skills.

WANTED! £4,500/£6,000
Junior Secs with audio and a minimum of one years' exp for vacancies both in the City and West End.

PLEASE CALL NOW Ann, Charles or Adele
118 NEW BOND ST, W1. 483 9441

Senior Secretary

Selection consultancy and executive search provide a most fascinating and interesting professional environment in which to work. In addition to having the responsibility for providing normal secretarial services to the consultants, you could, if desired, become more involved in some aspects of the background research necessary in the senior selection/executive search field. You would need to have a high standard of secretarial skills, strong commitment to the job, together with personal qualities enabling you to deal successfully with candidates and clients at a very senior level. We have pleasant offices in one of the best areas in the West End, word processing equipment and can offer a very attractive salary and benefits package to the right applicant. Write with brief details to Andrew Duncan at 45 Albemarle Street, London, W1N 3FE.

Bull Holmes
PERSONNEL ADVISERS

Ask Alfred Marks

NEW YEAR - NEW CAREER
SENIOR SEC/PA £9,500 + benefits
Managing Director of hotels and catering division of a large organisation based in W1 requires Senior Secretary/PA. If you have top level experience, a mature outlook, excellent shorthand and typing skills and are looking for an interesting and rewarding position, please call: Tina Holland.

SH/AUDIO/PA + LANGUAGES £8,500
Excellent Benefits
To work exclusively for the European Sales Director of large American banking corporation. Exciting opportunity to use your excellent skills and ability. Benefits include WP training, subsidised mortgage after 1 year and subsidised restaurant. Knowledge of one or more European languages would be an advantage. If you have the above skills plus a mature and confident outlook and would like to work in the Kensington area, please call Heather Bowen.

ALFRED MARKS RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
215 Kensington High Street, W8.
937 3603

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA is looking for an ASSISTANT TO THE ORCHESTRAL MANAGER

Full secretarial skills and aptitude for figure work are required and a musical background is preferable. Salary by arrangement.

Please apply, enclosing cv, to Personnel Manager, English National Opera, London Coliseum, St. Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4ES. Closing date 14 December 1984.

Senior/Medical Secretary

Qualified and experienced Secretary able to work on own initiative and accept responsibility required in Post Graduate Department. Responsible to the Post Graduate secretary for the work of a number of committees and committee chairmen and assistance with conferences and seminars. Excellent working conditions plus lunches. Salary £7,500 to £8,000 according to age and experience. Application form and job description from the college secretary.

Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists, 27 Sussex Place, Regent Park, London NW1 4RG.

BANKING SECRETARY

City based bank is now recruiting for a secretary with Credit & Marketing experience plus excellent audio & shorthand skills. This position offers a salary of £9,000 + many excellent banking perks. Call Susan Perry on 734 2567.

Stella Fry Recruitment

PERSONAL SECRETARY CIRCA £9,000

A Director of this international Holding Company with superb offices overlooking Green Park is looking for a top Right Secretary with excellent skills (120/60) to organise his personalised existence. He will have experience of working at Senior level and the confidence and presence to deal with Senior Directors. WP experience preferred. Excellent benefits. Age 25-45.

Please Telephone: 01-493 8767
GORDON YATES LTD.
35 Gd Bond Street, W1
(Secretariat Consultants)

BOARDROOM BATTLES c.£9,500

Working in the City Headquarters of this well known International Company you will support the young Finance Director as he operates through the world of Take-over, acquisitions and Corporate Planning.

An ability to see the wood for the trees and achieve results. Unparalleled will earn you the enthusiastic appreciation. Good secretarial skills and WP experience will enable you to handle a variety of correspondence, board papers, liaison and travel arrangements with confidence and ease.

Age 25-32
Speeds: 100/60.
CITY OFFICE
TEL: 01-726 8491
Angela Mortimer Ltd
Secretariat Recruitment Consultancy

ALL THE FOLLOWING JOBS HAVE A SALARY OF £9,000 BUT THAT IS WHERE THE SMALL PRINT ENDS...

* **VICTORIA SEC/PA** £9,000-£10,000 working for General Manager of this Scientific Publishing Co (80 sh will be fine). Admin duties, Young friendly atmosphere. Tel. Barbara.

* **SUPER SEC/PA** to a Director of a major City Merchant Bank, 100/50 wpm banking benefits plus subsidised mortgage. Tel. Anna.

* **SEC/ADMINISTRATOR** Mostly Audio plus very shorthand and an interest in computers are the requirements for this firm of management consultants in the City. Lots of involvement. 25+. Tel. Clara.

283 5561
City Secretaries

JUNIOR SECRETARY - 19-22 To £7,000

With superb fringe benefits 100/60, experience part of active team involved in interesting work. Outgoing, friendly, personally motivated. Excellent benefits. 24-4 weeks bank, Bonus, season ticket loan.

Phone Wendy
(01) 387 7277 Ext. 252.

Miller/McNish

ART GALLERY W1
Fast paced experienced Secretary/PA to a leading artist. Excellent salary, excellent benefits, excellent working conditions. Excellent salary, excellent benefits, excellent working conditions. Excellent salary, excellent benefits, excellent working conditions.

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

JEAN MUIR LTD
require an adaptable Secretary with creative flair to assist in the running of the company. The position is a real challenge, especially with Head Office in San Francisco, Ireland and other branches as well as reception, invoicing, VAT returns, etc. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player. The person must be a good communicator, a good listener, and a good team player.

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

ADMINISTRATOR
Senior design company in central London seeks highly motivated, well organised person as Administrator to Co-ordinate Project Team. Responsibilities include office project, liaison, management of information system, liaison with suppliers and contract cost control. Ability to cope under pressure and deal at all levels essential. All candidates fully relevant experience will be considered. Please apply in writing with CV to: **THE GROSVENOR BUREAU** 181 Jermyn St, W1

WINTER, MARRIAGES, DEATHS
WINTER - On December 31st, 1984, the year will end with a bang. The Times has a special guide to the festive season, including a list of the best Christmas movies, books, and records. The guide also includes a list of the best Christmas destinations, including the Maldives, the Azores, and the Canary Islands. The guide also includes a list of the best Christmas gifts, including the new book 'The Christmas Book' by John le Carré, the new record 'The Christmas Album' by the Bee Gees, and the new movie 'The Christmas Carol' starring Robert Redford.

DEATHS

DEATHS
ROSEMARY - On November 30, 1984, Rosemary, 65, of 12, The Hermitage, Letchworth, Herts. died. She was the wife of the late Mr. J. H. Rosemary. She is survived by her husband and two sons. Her funeral will be held on December 10, 1984, at 11.00 a.m. at St. Peter's Church, Letchworth. She will be buried in the churchyard.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

EUROVISTA WORLD TRAVEL
 Many daily departures scheduled from Heathrow/Gatwick. Also competitive holiday/leisure and business arrangements for business or pleasure. Inclusions: Return flights, transfers, accommodation, meals, drinks, and local transport. Examples of winter return fares (prices may vary according to month and day of travel and include all taxes):

SHORT Haul	SKI-FLY-DRIVE EUROPE	LONG Haul
Athens £149	Germany from £26	Los Angeles £301
Budapest £145	Switzerland from £39	Washington £256
Frankfurt £89	Austria from £149	New York £242
Geneva £89	France from £129	Boston £242
Nice £89	Inclusive flight and car	Atlanta £232
Paris £65	unlimited mileage	Dallas £232
Vienne £152	Schedule flights all major	South Africa £455
Zurich £92	U.K. airports	Round the World £810

NO CHRISTMAS FLY-DRIVE SURCHARGES

FLY NOW - PAY LATER

And now all fares worldwide including our special low fares to dozens of destinations, European Fly-Drives and Travellers Cheques can all be paid for over up to 4 years and no time pressure - we can do it. Alternatively, all major credit cards accepted.

Tel: (18 Lines) 01-741 5301, 01-741 5351

Rofel House, Colet Gardens, London W14 9DH

Telex: 8596740

Open until 7pm (5pm Saturday)

Licensed by Civil Aviation Authority - ATOL 1032

Office of Fair Trading, Consumer Credit Brokers Licence 165425

IATA - International Air Transport Association

Credit is granted subject to normal lending requirements and a written quotation will be sent upon request. Call for our brochure. Typical APR 22.8.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOLITAIRE DIAMOND RING - As new. Absolute bargain. See for sale today.

IVAN, HEATHER & DAN CORRETT will be sending Christmas Cards this year.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

SUPERIOR SERVICE DISCOUNT SAVINGS

Special offers on all holidays and villas.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP MHA

Bridge the Gap. Help for the mentally handicapped.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP MHA

Bridge the Gap. Help for the mentally handicapped.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP MHA

Bridge the Gap. Help for the mentally handicapped.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP MHA

Bridge the Gap. Help for the mentally handicapped.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP MHA

Bridge the Gap. Help for the mentally handicapped.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP MHA

Bridge the Gap. Help for the mentally handicapped.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP MHA

Bridge the Gap. Help for the mentally handicapped.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP MHA

Bridge the Gap. Help for the mentally handicapped.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP MHA

Bridge the Gap. Help for the mentally handicapped.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP MHA

Bridge the Gap. Help for the mentally handicapped.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP MHA

Bridge the Gap. Help for the mentally handicapped.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP MHA

Bridge the Gap. Help for the mentally handicapped.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP MHA

Bridge the Gap. Help for the mentally handicapped.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organizations, we have secured a large quantity of discounted airfares. These are available for a limited time only. See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS DEC. JAN 87

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

See for details.

London, 01-439 2100

ATOL 1408

WINTER SPORTS

SKI BARGAINS

Scargill makes heartland cash plea

[illegible]